

St. Joseph's College

WINTER 2007

MAGAZINE

Creating Successful
SCHOOLS

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Every child—regardless of his or her socioeconomic background, race or ethnicity—has the right to succeed in our nation's public school system. It's good for the individual student, and it's good for our country's standing in an increasingly competitive global community, where Americans are starting to slip behind in key subject areas such as mathematics.

It's clear that a new direction is needed, particularly in the low-performing, high-poverty, mostly urban school districts that also tend to get smaller slices of the education funding pie. When you look at our dismal national average graduation rate of 69.6% (as reported by *Education Week* in *Diplomas Count* last June) and the U.S. Dept. of Education statement that "only 68 out of 100 ninth graders in our public schools will graduate on time, and only 18 of those will go on to obtain a college degree," it's time to start thinking outside the box.

For all its weaknesses, the No Child Left Behind education act of 2002, which set out to close (by the year 2014) the achievement gap between poor minority students and their middle- and upper-class white peers, deserves praise for spotlighting a crisis that many have dismissed as unsolvable. And while the law may indeed expect too much in too little time, NCLB has challenged the subtle and not-so-subtle belief that poor minority children are uneducable—a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy that can undermine the best efforts of our top educators.

But there are bright spots within and outside the traditional public system that suggest that the promise of NCLB may in time be realized. Writer Christine Mullaney discusses some of these innovative measures in her story, "Reforming Education." Among these are charter schools, small

theme-based public high schools and NYC's empowerment schools, which offer principals more autonomy to try fresh approaches in exchange for greater accountability for their outcomes.

Not surprisingly, SJC alumni are at the forefront of the school reform movement. Peg Harrington '64, for instance, successfully reformed two high-needs and low-performing high schools during her long tenure with NYC. Now, she serves as chief operating officer for Victory Schools, one of the nation's most successful private managers of public schools and the largest single provider of charter schools in New York State.

Charter schools—the focus of much debate within the education community, particularly among those who argue that funds dispensed to the publicly financed but privately run institutions rob the traditional public system of sorely needed resources—nonetheless have received mostly positive reviews. Many have long waiting lists, although conflicting reports about their bottom-line effectiveness make it difficult to draw any definitive conclusions at this time.

In the end, the proof is in the proverbial pudding, and it remains to be seen how these bold new initiatives will fare over the long haul. In the meantime, those that appear to be working should be encouraged and supported. The education crisis leaves us neither the time nor the luxury to disregard any creative, sound strategy to increase the odds of success for *all* our children.

Susan Kane

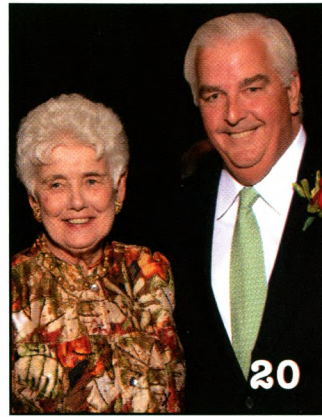
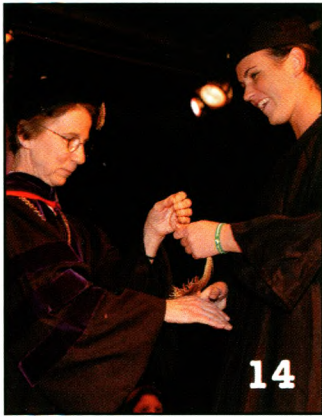
Susan Kane
Editor in Chief

St. Joseph's College

WINTER 2007

MAGAZINE

Vol. 5 No. 1



FEATURES

14 Freshman Investiture/Honors Convocation

A Warm Welcome for College's Newest Members

BY JOSEPH MACELLARO

SJC salutes Class of 2010, student leaders and top scholars.

16 Student Life Assumes More Expansive Role

New Suite in Brooklyn, Wellness Center Among Enhancements

BY SUSAN KANE

Programming focused on educating the 'whole' person.

20 Celebrating SJC's 24th Annual Dinner Dance

Special Spread Captures Highlights, Sentiments of Gala

22 High Expectations For All

Educators Attempt to Close the Achievement Gap

BY CHRISTINE MULLANEY

Leadership and accountability are key factors.

On the cover: Dr. Margaret Harrington '64 (left) and Winifred Radigan '69 at Campus Magnet High Schools in Queens, NY, formerly Andrew Jackson H.S. before its redesign by Dr. Harrington in the mid-90s.

Photo by William Baker

REGULAR FEATURES

2 Letters

3 News Digest

6 Faculty/Staff Notes

8 Student News

10 Giving

19 SJC People

27 Sports

29 Alumni Link

41 In Memoriam

42 Events Calendar

Inside
Back
Cover

Final Word

**Vol. 5 No. 1
WINTER 2007**

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LETTERS to the editor

Inspired by Alumni Voices author

Dear Editor:

It was 1990 and the questions were starting: "Where are you going to school?" and "What do you want to do after you graduate?" Here I was, 18 years old, with no clue what to do. At the time our country was right in the middle of the Persian Gulf War, and my father was all for me looking at the services, especially the Navy. Long story short, that is where I ended up.

I did quite well in boot camp and trade school. I became a radioman and was assigned to one of the biggest vessels in the Navy at that time, the aircraft carrier *USS Nimitz* out of Bremerton, WA. I had the opportunity to visit eight countries and serve my country during Operation Southern Watch.

After receiving an honorable discharge, I was back in New York in 1992. I decided to try college, enrolling at Nassau Community College at age 23. Now starts my college life and the path to my career in education.

One night I went to a college fair, where I came upon St. Joseph's booth. The representatives there were so nice and warm; I knew it was where I wanted to go. I took a ride to the Suffolk Campus and loved it. I chose child study as my major with a concentration in speech. Here I was, 25 and loving college.

I had some super instructors, including S. Grace Rowland and Professors Paganini, Raplee and Schultz. I am now a colleague of theirs as an adjunct professor. I am also a first grade teacher in a Suffolk school district. I graduated from SJC in 2001 and received my master's from C.W. Post in 2003. I guess you can say I came full circle. Just to teach at St. Joseph's College alongside these wonderful professors is a privilege and an honor.

I wrote in because I was really inspired by the wonderful article by Erin Towner in the Fall 2006 *St. Joseph's College Magazine*. St. Joseph's gave me

that drive to do well. The College, instructors and my peers were always positive and supportive. I would not trade my SJC experience for anything. I would not be where I am today if it were not for St. Joseph's.

*Michael Dragotta
Class of 2001*

Story elicited 'fond memories'

Dear Editor:

Would it be possible to send my sister a copy of the Fall 2006 *St. Joseph's College Magazine* (cover story on "Women in Science")? What a great issue! I usually send her my copy when I'm finished—but for this issue I want her to have her own copy so we can chat on the phone about different articles. As a member of the Class of '62, the article about Annie O'Rourke ("Donor Spotlight") brought back such fond memories. I'm so happy to be part of the St. Joseph's College family.

*Alice Sheridan D'Anna
Class of 1962*

Correction

In the story, "How management graduates spell success" (Fall 2006), the name of alumnae Jean Zephirin's business was incorrect. Jean's company is MJZ (not MGZ) Communication. We apologize for the error.

We welcome letters from our readers. Please limit your letters to 500 words or less and e-mail to skane@sjcnj.edu. You may also send your comments to Susan Kane, St. Joseph's College Magazine, 319 West Roe Blvd., Patchogue, NY 11772. Please note that letters may be edited for space or clarity.

Presidential speaker Doris Kearns Goodwin draws record crowd



A standing-room-only crowd packed the D'Ecclesiis Auditorium on Oct. 11 to hear historian and 2006 Presidential Lecturer Doris Kearns Goodwin's riveting presentation on wartime presidents. A popular commentator within the mainstream media, Dr. Goodwin's historical works—most notably her Pulitzer Prize-winning account of Franklin D. Roosevelt, *No Ordinary*

Time—have earned her a reputation as a world-class scholar.

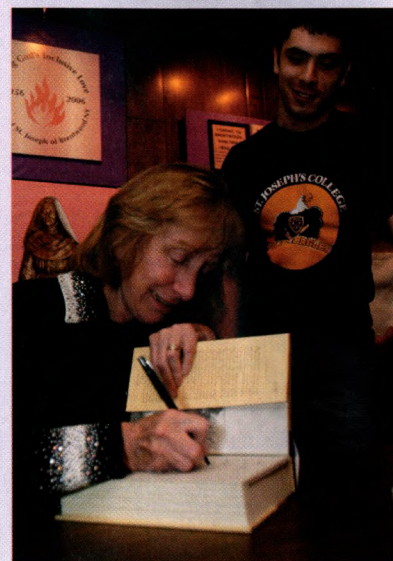
A diehard baseball fan, she traces her passion for history back to age six, when she would recount the scores from nightly Brooklyn Dodgers games to her father. "It made me feel like there was something magical about history," she said.

Dr. Goodwin's career as a historian skyrocketed at the tender age of 24 when President Lyndon B. Johnson chose her to help prepare his memoir, a collaboration that revealed to her the private and somewhat tragic figure behind the public persona. "It fired my drive to understand the inner person behind the public figure," she said.

This drive yielded three *New York Times*' best-sellers, intimate portraits of Presidents Johnson, Roosevelt and Lincoln, the latter of whom she playfully referred to as, "the man I've been living with for the past 10 years." Her 2005 biogra-

phy, *Team of Rivals*, has been so well received that Stephen Spielberg plans a film adaptation with Liam Neeson cast as Lincoln.

—Ginnetty



Doris Kearns Goodwin autographs a copy of her most recent work during a book-signing session following her lecture.

Photos by Richard Slattery

College unveils new advertising campaign

St. Joseph's has launched a new advertising campaign that includes a blend of print, radio, television, outdoor and other media outlet ads that support SJC's academic programs and promote awareness of the College as a whole throughout the New York metropolitan area.

The ads, unveiled last summer, have a new look, color palette and theme, "Transforming Lives—One Student At A Time." The ads focus on the "success stories and positive outcomes" of current students and SJC alumni, according to VP for

Enrollment Management Theresa LaRocca Meyer.

For example, a movie screen commercial slide features Matthew Barbis '94, financial consultant and president of Matthew Barbis & Co., with the message, "St. Joseph's College Gave Me The Confidence To Open My Own Business," while one of the smaller billboards to be displayed across the five boroughs spotlights child study major Nicola O'Connor, who hopes to become a school principal.

"The new campaign is the result of six months of research

which consisted of many focus groups of students, parents and alumni," Ms. LaRocca Meyer said. "Our goal is to increase the visibility of the College by using new and exciting venues."

In addition to print ads, the new media plan calls for more radio advertising, Cablevision TV commercials, large billboards along the BQE, bus wraps and ads on LIRR car cards and bus shelters. Online advertisements and direct mail are other components of the new marketing initiative.

—Kane

Color of Water author delights student audience



Claudia Mirzaali

Award-winning writer and composer James McBride charmed and informed a crowded auditorium of Suffolk students during an October visit.

Addressing the audience as “my kind of students,” Mr. McBride, author of the critically acclaimed best-selling memoir, *The Color of*

Water, and a Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at New York University, said, “I look at you and see my history,” referring to a shared working-class background. “You understand what it means to be out of money,” he continued, calling that predicament an “advantage” in navigating the real world.

SJC welcomed Mr. McBride during a special extended two-hour common hour, part of Unity Week on campus. The Office of Multicultural Student Life and Diversity Union sponsored Mr. McBride’s appearance, which interspersed his amusing stories with wonderful music by the Oberlin Conservatory-trained saxophonist and his jazz band. The following day, Mr. McBride delivered the Founders Day lecture on the Brooklyn Campus.

The Color of Water: A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother has been translated into more than 17 languages and has sold more than 1.8 million copies worldwide. A second book, *Miracle at St. Anna*, has been praised as an outstanding novel, and numerous articles by Mr. McBride have been published in national magazines and newspapers.

Praising his student audience for “already demonstrating that you can succeed by getting into college,” Mr. McBride advised them “to forgive yourself when you fail, [then] go back and hit it harder.” He suggested that students give up television and read newspapers for six months because “reading is freedom [and] will change your life in a substantive way.”

— Mullaney

Young People’s Chorus



Richard Slattery

The St. Joseph’s College Council for the Arts in Suffolk presented a concert by the internationally acclaimed Young People’s Chorus of New York City in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, who are celebrating their 150th anniversary. Proceeds from the fundraiser were presented to the Sisters for use in their many ministries.

New name for adult, professional division

In an effort to raise the visibility of the programs it offers to adult students, the School of Adult and Professional Education has been renamed the School of Professional and Graduate Studies. The school serves career-oriented and working adult students through its undergraduate, graduate and non-credit offerings.

“The inauguration of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies is a fitting extension of the College’s long-standing commitment to providing programs and services designed to foster career advancement for working professionals,” said Dr. Thomas Travis, vice president and dean of the School.

— Gonzalez

Theologians Challenge Status Quo



William Baker

SJC alumna Dr. Maria Pascuzzi, C.S.J. '73, an expert on Pauline Scripture, and feminist Catholic theologian Dr. Maria Pilar Aquino (both professors in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of San Diego) urged attendees at a day-long colloquium in Suffolk to find alternatives to the status quo and, through their own lives, testify their obligation to Jesus Christ. Speaking under the sponsorship of the College's Institute for the Study of Religion in Community Life, Drs. Pascuzzi (left) and Aquino (right), standing with SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill, were critical of the roles of capitalism and globalization in the modern world.

Web site milestone reached

The College Web site passed a major milestone, recording its 11 millionth page view in just over two years in December 2006. Launched in August 2004, the site now registers about 400,000 page views per month, a significant increase over the previous site's performance.

The page view metric is often seen as the key number to assess site "usefulness" because it indicates that the site is most likely reaching and holding the interest of its target audience—in SJC's case, students, alumni, faculty, staff and other curious browsers.

People visiting an unsuccessful site simply glance at one or two pages, leave and don't return. Visitors to www.sjcnj.edu are staying for about 11 minutes and are looking at an average of 24 pages per visit.

Among the top 10 most-visited destinations (other than the home page) are: Web Registration, Undergraduate A&S Admissions, Registrar's Office, Athletics Landing Page, Graduate Degree Programs and Financial Aid Office.

— Redo

Husband and wife are this year's Visiting Fellows

St. Joseph's will host John and Lillian Maguire as this year's Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows. The couple, each of whom has a strong record of achievement, will meet with students and faculty in addition to delivering lectures at both campuses during the week of February 26, 2007.

John Maguire served for 28 years as a university president, first at SUNY at Old Westbury, and later at Claremont University Consortium and Claremont Graduate University in California. He is currently a senior fellow in the Institute for Democratic Renewal in CGU's School of Politics and Economics and a senior consultant to Project Change. Inspired by his friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he has spent much of his career working against racism.

Lillian Maguire is a former teacher and curriculum coordinator who now chairs the Claremont Youth Partnership and serves as vice president of the Children's Advocacy Center. A nationally recognized authority on issues related to children and adolescents, she has been honored by the YMCA, the Children's Defense Fund, the American Red Cross and Rotary International.

The Maguires will be in Suffolk Feb. 26 and 27 and March 1 and in Brooklyn on Feb. 28. John Maguire will speak during common hour in Suffolk on Feb. 26 and in Brooklyn on Feb. 28 on "Catching Up With Martin: The Pertinence Today of King's Vision for a Racially, Socially Just Society." Mrs. Maguire will address SJC student teachers.

— Kane

FACULTY & STAFFnotes

Compiled by Claudia Mirzaali

The College welcomed new faculty members: **Dr. Christina Colon Downs** (Psychology); **Edgar Daniels** (Child Study); **S. Nancy Gilchrist, Ed.D.** (Education); **Rosemary Hamlin** (Speech Communication); **Dr. Peter Lin** (Psychology); **Jana Lipman, Ph.D. cand.** (History); **Dr. Paul Patterson** (English); **Dr. Stephen Rockwell** (Political Science); **Dr. Karen Russo** (Child Study); **Shawn Savage** (History); and **Dr. Renee White Clark** (Child Study).

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Charles Pendola passed the certification exam to become a CFE (Certified Fraud Examiner), becoming one of 37,000 CFEs across 110 nations.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Carolyn Gallogly published her article, "Remembrances of the Semester Past," in the Gerontology Professionals of Long Island section of *PRIME LINES*' spring-summer issue.

FINE ARTS

Leon Bernardyn (Chair-Music) participated in the NYU/FRN summer seminar, "Punk to Postmodernism: Teaching Contemporary Culture Through Archives and Theory," studying the museum's collection of artifacts from the NYC punk scene in the '70s and '80s and gaining an appreciation of that time's music history and pop culture. Fine Arts professors from around the world worked with Prof. Marvin Taylor, an archivist of the NYU special collections.

GRADUATE MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Diane Pfadenhauer was featured as an answer consultant in a busi-

ness advice column in *Newsday*. She also spoke on "Transatlantic Perspective in Alternative Dispute Resolution" at The Impact of ADR on Human Resources Practices in London, England. She presented "How to Maintain an Effective Human Resources Department," sponsored by Lorman Education Services in Melville, and recently published an article, "Outsourcing Human Resources During a Turnaround," in *The Journal of Corporate Renewal*, August 2006.

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Richard Margulis was named vice president and COO of Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center. He has been with the hospital since 1982, and VP of operations since 1996.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Dr. Maria Montoya (Spanish) published her article, "De Greta Garbo a Charlot: Madrid y el cine mudo," in the book *Madrid en las artes y la literatura*. Also, while in Alicante, Spain, she conducted a survey on the perceptions on the Euro and the Spanish economy with plans to complete the survey in January and present the results in a panel on Recent Developments in the European Union at the Eastern Economic Assoc. Conference in NYC in February.

PSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Paul Ginnetty had a letter to the editor regarding the church's view on immigration published in *Newsday*. He is the director of the Institute for the Study of Religion and Community Life at St. Joseph's.

SCIENCE

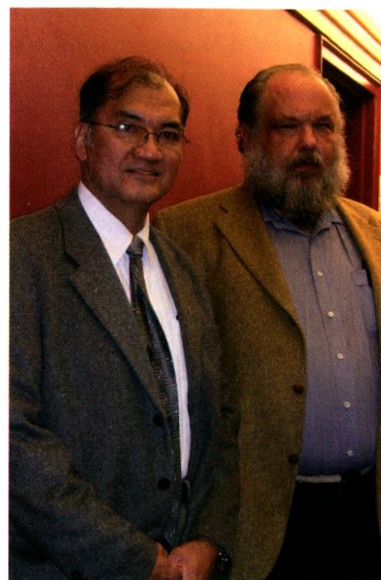
Dr. Frank Antonowich (Chair-Biology) published an article, "Palladium Lipoic Acid Complex

(PdLA): 'A Selective Metabolic Modulator,'" in *Anti-Aging Medicine Therapeutics*, 2006.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr. Kenneth Bauzon (Political Science) refereed two articles for two separate professional journals: *The Comparative Education Review* and *The Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

Dr. Richard Torz (Economics) attended and participated in the 2006 Northeast Business & Economics Assoc. (NBEA) Conference, where he organized and chaired a panel session titled, "The European Monetary Union: Challenges and Opportunities." Dr. Torz wrote the professional abstract for the panel session; it can be found on the NBEA's official Web site, www.nbea.us.



Dr. Kenneth Bauzon (Social Sciences), left, with guest speaker Dr. Martin Potschka of the University of Vienna, Austria. Dr. Potschka lectured on "Phylogenetic Memory: Reflections from the Socio-Psychological and Biological Sciences" Nov. 14 in Suffolk. The event was co-sponsored by the Psychology and Social Sciences Departments.

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Dr. Thomas Travis (VP and dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies) was presented with the 2006 Community Service Award by the Suffolk Minorities Involved in Law Enforcement (SMILE), which is Suffolk County's largest minority fraternal law enforcement organization. Dr. Travis accepted the award on behalf of the faculty, staff and students at St. Joseph's College who have worked tirelessly over the past five years to support diversity initiatives on the Suffolk Campus.

St. Joseph's welcomes **Victoria Finnigan** as director of institutional budgets. She will be overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Suffolk Campus Business Office.

St. Joseph's welcomes **Bryan Gill** '06 as senior administrative assistant in the Office of Student Life in Suffolk. He also performed in the SJC Drama Society's production of *Pippin*.

Kaliah Greene (PGS) appeared in the recent production of *Dreamgirls* staged at the Creative Ministries Performing Arts Center in Oakdale.

Dr. Mary Long Schultz has joined St. Joseph's as director of the new Wellness Center on the Suffolk Campus. Dr. Schultz previously worked at Stony Brook University and has extensive experience in counseling students. ■

Longtime registrars are retiring



From left: Geri Rothaug, Pat Keating and Barbara Janusz

Three of the College's registrars—Barbara Janusz, Pat Keating and Geri Rothaug—are retiring this year. Barbara, chief registrar, will be stepping down in June after 29 years at SJC. Pat, with St. Joseph's for 25 years, will be leaving this February. Geri, here 16 years, also will be retiring in June.

Barbara joined St. Joseph's as a part-time assistant in the Registrar's Office of what was then the Division

of General Studies (now the School of Professional and Graduate Studies). After several promotions, she was named chief registrar in 1992.

Pat began her career at the College as a part-time assistant in General Studies. Before that, she taught third grade in East Meadow and substitute taught in Sayville after moving there with her family in 1964.

Geri joined the Suffolk Campus as a temp after the company where she was purchasing agent declared bankruptcy. She agreed to stay on permanently, eventually heading up the Scheduling and Registration Office. When former Registrar S. Rose Catherine Stevens retired, Geri became associate registrar.

"They will be a hard act to follow," SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill said. "It is a major understatement to say that we will miss them."

— Kane

SJC welcomes Ian Beckford

Dr. Ian Beckford has joined St. Joseph's in the newly created position of director of institutional research. He brings with him years of experience in evaluation research. According to SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill, Dr. Beckford's goal is "to assist the College by providing information and analyses that will enable us to plan both strategically and long-term."

Dr. Beckford's work is global in nature: accessing data currently stored in various departments College-wide. Eventually he will compile that data and prepare the reports and surveys SJC is required to submit each year.

"Since arriving at St. Joseph's, I've enjoyed the intellectually stimu-



William Baker

lating environment, and the faculty and staff's desire to use data to inform their thinking and practices," Dr. Beckford said in an interview.

He holds an Ed.D. in Policy, Planning, and Evaluation from the University of Pittsburgh, and M.A. degrees from Western Kentucky University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

— Mirzaali

Experiencing the plight of the homeless for one night



Nora Batteray

Students, faculty and staff forfeited the luxury of a warm bed to help the homeless by camping out in cardboard boxes and staging an overnight sleepout on the Suffolk Campus Quad Nov. 17. A past tradition of the College held to raise funds and increase awareness of the plight of Long Island's homeless, the event was revived by the campus' new Habitat for Humanity Club.

Teams of students representing campus clubs, athletic teams and Greek organizations joined the effort, each group contributing a minimum of \$250. Officers of the SJC chapter of Habitat—an international organization that constructs houses for homeless and other needy families—said the over \$2,000 collected will benefit Habitat's Student Build program.

The SJC club must raise an additional \$2,000 to participate in the four local "builds" scheduled for this spring.

That same evening, Students Taking An Active Role in Society provided Thanksgiving dinner for area homeless. And prior to the sleepout, faculty, students and staff at both campuses donated sweatshirts and other clothing that were distributed to the poor in New York City by the volunteer group Midnight Run.

The sleepout was the first big event sponsored by the Habitat chapter, which will head to Tampa, FL, this spring break to help build homes as part of the parent organization's Collegiate Challenge project. Organizers said the Nov. 17 event was eye-opening.

"It makes you realize how lucky you are," said Club President Lisa Galasso. "Even in a box, it was still freezing," added Treasurer Tyler Eckhoff. "But at least I had a car to go into." ■

New groups tackle global issues of peace, justice

Student chapters of two international organizations that promote peace and social justice have been established in Suffolk: Amnesty International (AI), a worldwide network of people who campaign for human rights, and Pax Christi (PC), the Catholic peace movement. In addition to individual activities, the groups jointly sponsored a fall film series.

AI Chapter President Susan Goldstein said she and other organizers were "inspired" to form their group after hearing visiting Woodrow Wilson Fellow Callie

Crossley's talk last February. "She was speaking in a way that allowed students to feel they had a place and the ability to make a difference [in the world]," Susan said. SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill's call for enhanced civic engagement was another influence. Last semester, the group wrote to a prisoner of conscience, hosted a "teach-in" about the Guantanamo Bay Prison and circulated petitions to end human rights abuses.

The Pax Christi chapter was begun by students—spearheaded by senior Erin Regan—who joined others at SJC on a trip to the PC-

sponsored Good Friday Stations of the Cross in NYC, an annual pilgrimage. PC rejects war and urges Christian nonviolence as a means to solve conflict.

The student involvement in global concerns coincides with the launching of SJC's new minor in peace and justice studies, an 18-credit interdisciplinary program. "Hopefully the minor will provide an avenue for students who are interested in the questions of peace, justice and human rights," said Religious Studies Chair Dr. Tom Petriano, moderator for the PC chapter. ■

Club's members from across the globe

Globe Spotters, one of Brooklyn's newer student clubs, strives to foster positive multicultural experiences for the entire campus community. The club grew out of ACES, which helps student immigrants develop their writing and communication skills. Its 30 members represent 15 countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Club member Dan Ristea from

Romania enjoys interacting with students from varying cultures. "Each of these cultures provides a different perspective on how to look at the world," he said.

During its first semester, members toured the U.N., sponsored forums on cultural boundaries and visited the San Gennaro Feast and the East Side Tenement Museum, among other activities. ■

Heeding the call of Africa's poorest



William Baker

Junior Kaitlyn Haas felt a need to help others but was dissatisfied with the lack of community service opportunities in her hometown on Long Island's East End. "I wanted to do something a little different," said the psychology major. "Not many people go to Africa."

Through an online search, she found VolunteerAfrica, a British charity that organizes rural-development programs in the continent's most impoverished regions. She plans to travel with two friends and 21 other volunteers to the Singida region of Tanzania in May.

"We will go to villages where projects have already been initiated," said Kaitlyn, who will work for four weeks with other volunteers from around the world in a village that is building offices for teachers and a clinic. Before she can make the trip, however, she must learn Swahili and receive a myriad of shots.

Kaitlyn is in the process of raising more than \$2,000 to cover donation fees and airfare and insurance costs. She credits the Office of Campus Ministry for help in this area, but fundraising efforts continue. ■

Behind the scenes, making it happen



William Baker

An "undercover" crew works behind the scenes at the Suffolk Campus to enliven concerts, shows and presentations. The 10 staff members of the Office of Theatrical Operations—all students—provide support services for all events held in the D'Ecclesiis Auditorium, Danzi Athletic Center and McGann and Shea conference centers. "They're the best-kept secret in Suffolk," said Assistant Dean S. Karen Donohue, who supervises the staff.

Theatrical Operations began seven years ago with two lights and an amplifier, but has grown considerably, said senior Eric Biagi, operations and artistic director. In the auditorium, Eric and his colleagues

have installed 80 lighting effects, a new sound system and backstage construction, and coordinated a remodelling project that included updated seating and a new stage floor.

"We want to express our appreciation for the support we've received," Eric said, adding that St. Joseph's is the only local college that places much of the responsibility for the coordination of commencement—held annually at Nassau Coliseum—in students' hands.

Some staff members have already received job offers in the theatrical operations field, and all plan to incorporate what they have learned here into their lives after graduation. ■

State grant funds pre-K program at local school

by Susan Kane



Nora Battermay

Program supervisor Dr. Mary Fritz reads to a youngster enrolled in one of the new pre-K classes.

A \$104,000 New York State grant has led to the creation of a new pre-kindergarten program administered by the St. Joseph's College Child Study Department in collaboration with the Patchogue-Medford Union Free School District.

The program's three half-day classes, housed at Tremont Elementary School in Medford, are taught by SJC child study graduates who are currently enrolled in the College's M.A. in Literacy/Cognition program, under the supervision of Assistant Professor of Child Study Dr. Mary Fritz. Dr. Fritz, a retired principal and pre-K director who has a wealth of experience in the field of early childhood learning, prepared the grant proposal and curriculum along with Patchogue-

Medford personnel. All three classes—each consisting of 18 four-year-olds—were full soon after the program began in September. Each class is taught by one teacher with the help of a teaching assistant.

"The curriculum for the pre-kindergarten program, as I have written it, will follow the New York State Learning Standards and will foster the development of the children's auditory comprehension and expressive vocabulary," said Dr. Fritz.

Similar to the Brooklyn Campus' long-operating Dillon Child Study Center, the program at Tremont also—beginning this spring—will enable current SJC child study juniors to observe and participate in an actual pre-K classroom. "It really is in a sense a

lab school," Dr. Fritz said of the new venture. "SJC benefits because we have a showcase now where our [graduate] students are teaching and using the skills that they learned as undergraduates."

Tremont Principal Joseph Cohen has been "very supportive" of the collaborative project, Dr. Fritz said. "He knows that the central thrust of the [St. Joseph's graduate] program is literacy."

Of the SJC alumni and current graduate students who staff the program, Dr. Fritz could not be prouder. "They are just great," she said. "You would never know that they are beginning teachers." ■

Melissa Gonzalez contributed to this story.

Support for College Fund growing

The St. Joseph's College Fund is off to a wonderful start this year, thanks to the alumni who have already contributed nearly \$200,000 to the Fund. There certainly is a buzz around the College community about giving, and it's not just from the alumni. The faculty, staff and administration have come out to show their SJC pride as well.

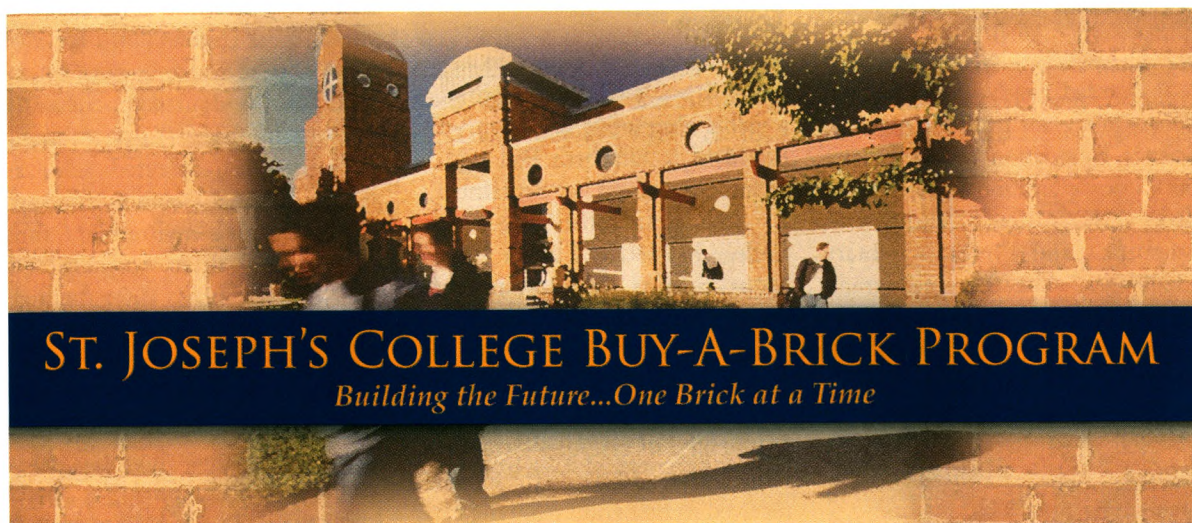
There is an exciting new project on the Suffolk Campus this giv-

ing season. The St. Joseph's College Fund, which ensures a dynamic, supportive learning environment for both current and future students, has launched the "Buy-A-Brick" project. For further details, please see the article below.

In other news, St. Joseph's students took to the phones this past October with Phonathons held on both the Brooklyn and Suffolk Campuses. The simultaneous events

raised over \$20,000 in gifts and pledges as well as securing nearly 100 commitments for the "Buy-A-Brick" project. We are grateful to the student callers who did such an excellent job.

For more information about the St. Joseph's College Fund, please contact J.P. Lucero at 718.398.4128 or sjcfund@sjcny.edu. ■



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE BUY-A-BRICK PROGRAM

Building the Future...One Brick at a Time

Pave the way for future students—buy a personalized brick

by Susan Kane

Members of the College community can now commemorate their experience at St. Joseph's or honor a significant person or event in their lives by participating in the new "Buy-A-Brick" giving program.

By purchasing a personalized brick or paver that becomes a permanent part of the Suffolk Campus, donors literally leave their mark, etching their names or the name of a friend, mentor, professor, class or loved one into the history of the

College while ensuring a bright future for students yet to come.

Proceeds from the sale of bricks will support the St. Joseph's College Fund, which helps build a dynamic learning environment for current and future students by providing scholarships, equipment for classrooms or laboratories and monies for special needs that otherwise would go unmet.

The first phase of the program will create a brick courtyard within

the popular seating area located between the Callahan Library and the John A. Danzi Athletic Center in Suffolk. Bricks are available in two sizes: 4" x 8" for a donation of \$100, and 8" x 8" for \$250. Courtyard pavers measuring 12" x 12" may be purchased with a contribution of \$500.

To learn more or to purchase a brick or paver, call 718.398.4128 or e-mail jplucero@sjcny.edu. You may also place your order online at www.sjcny.edu/annualfund. ■

NSF grant largest in history of St. Joseph's

by Jessica McAleer Decatur

William Baker



St. Joseph's College has been awarded nearly a half million dollars in a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support a new educational project entitled: "MOSAIC: Meeting Our Scientific and Interdisciplinary Challenges." The four-year grant, totaling \$499,240, will be used to create scholarships and provide academic support services for eligible students majoring in the fields of biology, chemistry, mathematics, computer science or computer information systems (STEM majors).

"These funds will enable us to attract high-caliber students to our math, computer science and science programs, and they also provide for outreach to local communities, to

encourage young people to see a career in one of those disciplines as a viable alternative for them," SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill said in an announcement last September.

The grant, the largest the College has received in its 90-year history and its second awarded by the NSF, was secured through the efforts of faculty representing the four targeted majors under the leadership of Assistant Professor of Mathematics/Computer Science S. Jane Fritz, Ph.D. St. Joseph's received its first grant from the NSF, an independent agency of the U.S. government, four years ago.

MOSAIC, an educational collaboration between St. Joseph's College and the NSF, is a support

program for students who have been accepted or are currently enrolled as full-time STEM majors at the College, are in good academic standing and can demonstrate residual financial need. Eligible students can be considered annually for up to \$10,000 per academic year. In addition to financial support, MOSAIC offers faculty mentoring and assistance with internship and occupational placements.

The goal of the program is to attract more students into areas of national need and to increase retention of students, particularly women and other underrepresented minorities. Selected scholars receive personal attention in a supportive learning environment, thus encouraging them to complete their degrees and to enter the high technology work force as well-educated and qualified professionals.

Partial support for the program is provided by the National Science Foundation Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S-STEM) Program. ■

Susan Kane contributed to this story.

Photos by Len Rubenstein



Aquinas donors mark first decade as giving society

by Clare Kehoe

In recognition of alumni and friends who have indicated that they have made provisions for the College in their estate plans, the Aquinas Society was established in 1995. The SJC legacy society, which honors those who have made a long-term investment in the future of St. Joseph's College, was named for St. Thomas Aquinas, who embodied the qualities that the College holds dear: academic excellence and the pursuit of truth. Anyone familiar with SJC will know that the name also honors S. George Aquin O'Connor, who served as College president for 28 years.

Since its creation, the Aquinas Society has been growing at a gradual but steady pace. Today, there are over 100 members, up significantly from the initial membership of 25. Through estate plans, this prestigious group of donors has provided support for programs and services that are vital to the success of St. Joseph's students.

SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill invited members of the Aquinas Society to celebrate a decade of success at special luncheons held in December at the University Club in New York City and the Hempstead Golf and Country Club. At those

times, the College commemorated the generosity of Aquinas Society participants who have named SJC as a beneficiary in their wills, insurance policies, pension plans, IRAs, annuities and trusts. More often than not, planned gifts provide a tax benefit for the donor, in addition to ensuring the future of St. Joseph's students.

The Office of Institutional Advancement welcomes your inquiries about planned giving opportunities and the Aquinas Society. For further information, please contact Clare Kehoe at 718.399.8425 or ckehoe@sjcnj.edu, or visit www.sjcnj.edu/plannedgiving. ■

Senator Trunzo secures funds for technology upgrades

by Jessica McAleer Decatur

State Senator Caesar Trunzo has secured a \$30,000 member initiative grant for the conversion of meeting rooms in the Callahan Library on the Suffolk Campus to seminar Smart Classrooms.

Smart Classrooms are fully integrated, technological classrooms that allow instructors greater flexibility in the preparation and delivery of course material, and provide pre-service teachers with the chance to use, explore and experiment with technology. Through the use of computer workstations and CD-DVD equipment, instructors can enhance their

lectures with graphics, video and programs such as PowerPoint.

Between 2002 and 2004, all of the College's classrooms were converted to Smart Classrooms. The library project will further meet the needs of graduate students and upperclassmen enrolled in seminar and elective courses that do not require the use of a large classroom.

Senator Trunzo has been a dedicated supporter of St. Joseph's throughout his 34 years in the State Senate. During his tenure, he has obtained almost \$400,000 in funding from New York State for a wide range of projects at the College. ■



State Senator Trunzo with SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill

Welcoming THE CLASS OF 2010

by Joseph Macellaro

St. Joseph's officially welcomed its new freshman class and recognized top scholarship recipients and student leaders at investiture and honors convocation ceremonies held at the Brooklyn and Suffolk campuses this past fall.

In Brooklyn, 164 freshmen—the campus' largest and most diverse incoming class to date—were introduced as the newest members of the

SJC community at a combined investiture/honors convocation ceremony held Sept. 18 in the auditorium. Also at that time, the College bestowed awards upon honor society members, student government executives and student senators, as well as winners of St. Joseph's most prestigious scholarships.

Suffolk held its investiture ceremony Sept. 28 in the Danzi

Athletic Center, welcoming 443 new freshmen. Student scholarship recipients and student leaders were honored at a separate event in the D'Ecclesiis Auditorium on Oct. 19. In addition, Suffolk awarded the Saint Catherine Medal, an annual honor presented to alumni on the basis of past leadership and service, to Diane Ripollone '86 and Andrew Saidler '05. ■

2006 Distinguished Scholars

Board of Trustees Scholarship

Kathleen Brucas, Archbishop Molloy High School (Brooklyn)
Alan Zollo, Patchogue-Medford High School (Suffolk)

Blanche A. Knauth Scholarship

Keara Brown, St. Vincent Ferrer High School (Brooklyn)
Diane Woodruff, Central Islip High School (Suffolk)

Sister George Aquin O'Connor Scholarship

John Attard, Archbishop Molloy High School (Brooklyn)
Kathleen Murphy, Sachem High School (Suffolk)



Clockwise from bottom left: Dr. Thomas Petriano speaks during Suffolk's investiture; freshmen recite the Academic Integrity Pledge; Prof. Victoria Hong presents School of Arts and Sciences candidates at Suffolk's honors convocation; SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill gives a gold tassel to CAB Event Coordinator Liz Smith, one of Suffolk's honored student leaders; a Brooklyn freshman; a view of the stage at Brooklyn's combined ceremonies; Rev. John Gilvey, Ph.D., addresses the crowd in Brooklyn; Keara Brown accepts the Blanche A. Knauth Scholarship from S. Elizabeth Hill.

Photos by William Baker, Nora Batternay and Richard Slattery

Busy year for Student Life

Expanded services, collaborative programs highlight new holistic approach

by Susan Kane

Less than seven months after Dr. Susan Hudec became St. Joseph's first dean of students, the large area she oversees has undergone a number of changes and enhancements, in keeping with the College's goal of creating a more comprehensive program for all of its students.

In line with that objective, what was formerly the Office of Student Services has been restructured as the Office of Student Life, reflecting the department's new holistic approach. "We wanted the entire college to see exactly what we're about,"

Dr. Hudec said in a recent

interview. "We're part of the education of the whole student, the learning that goes on in and outside of the classroom."

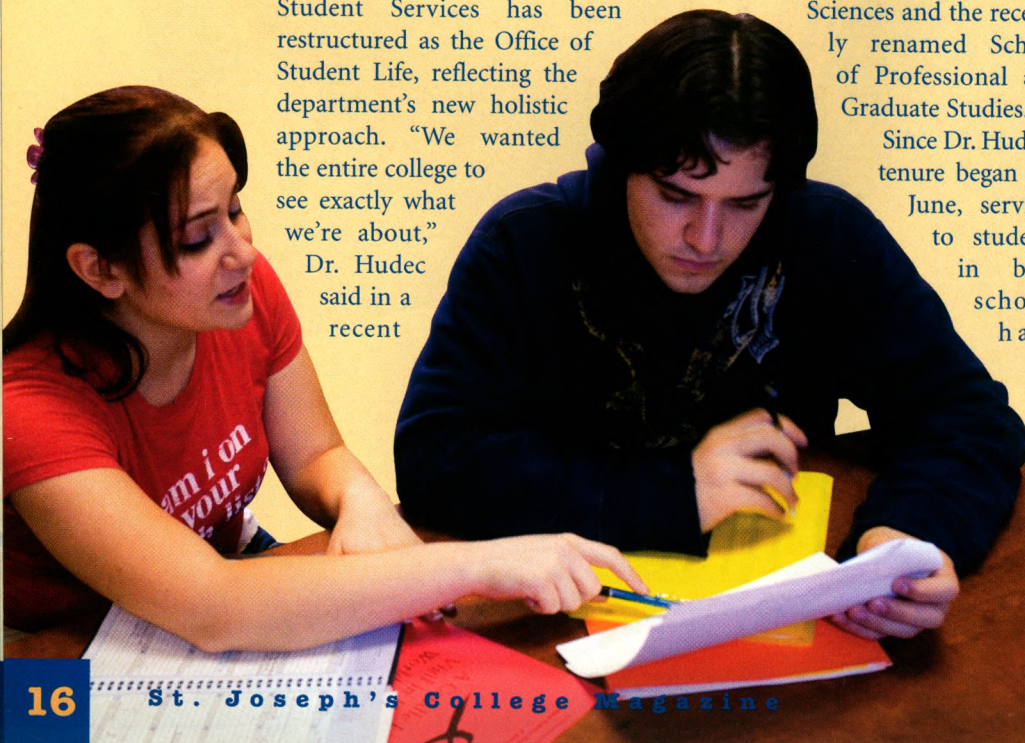
As dean of students, Dr. Hudec manages student services and activities, student government, counseling and career development, multicultural student life, campus ministry and athletics at both campuses, for the School of Arts and Sciences and the recently renamed School of Professional and Graduate Studies.

Since Dr. Hudec's tenure began last June, services to students in both schools have

been expanded, with more collaborative programs now in place. In Brooklyn, for instance, activities have been planned for the late afternoon/early evening hours, providing additional opportunities for students from both divisions to participate and interact with one another.

Areas that encompass Student Life have also teamed up with other College departments to develop mutually beneficial programming. The counseling and career offices at both campuses this fall introduced alumni career mentoring and/or networking offerings with the help of the Alumni Office. In November, Suffolk held its first networking event for alumni and current students, and Brooklyn launched a career mentoring outreach with a dinner reception bringing together alumni volunteer mentors and their student mentees.

Meanwhile, Athletics has been working with student government leaders to develop a full-scale intramural program and to foster "some healthy com-





New Student Life Suite located in Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus.

petition" between the College's two campuses, Dr. Hudec said. There has also been a more concerted effort (mostly through the "East Meets West" initiative) to provide joint activities for Brooklyn and Suffolk students.

In February, for example, Suffolk students will travel by bus to Brooklyn for a musical performance in celebration of Black History Month. "The students from Suffolk are getting a little sampling of what it's like to go down the street and see five restaurants, and the kids from Brooklyn are coming out east and seeing the [athletic] fields," Dr. Hudec explained.

Perhaps most notable is the physical expansion and new highly visible location of what is now known as the Student Life Suite in Brooklyn. Situated near the front entrance of Tuohy Hall, the former home of the Financial Aid Office is abuzz with activity, according to Dr. Hudec. "When you walk in the front door, that whole area is all students now," she said. "There is a lot going

on." To help students keep track of the happenings, flat screen TVs with rolling announcements of the day's events are coming to both campuses over the next few months.

The suite includes offices for Dr. Hudec and Director of Co-curricular Programs (formerly Director of Student Services) Sherrie van Arnam and their assistants, as well as a room with a 15-foot conference table, computers and a copy machine where student clubs and organizations can meet and work together on projects. A sitting area with a fireplace attracts students seeking a quiet spot to study, chat with friends or just relax.

In Suffolk, clinical psychologist Dr. Mary Schultz has joined the Office of Counseling, Career and Disability Services to head up a brand new venture, the Wellness Center. Located off the lounge on the second floor of O'Connor Hall, the center provides free personal counseling and therapy services to students who are experiencing problems with stress, anxiety,

depression or family and/or relationship issues. Dr. Schultz, who worked at Stony Brook University before joining SJC, also has begun to offer wellness and support groups, including this fall's popular meditation series.

"For students, this is a safe, confidential environment where they can get some support, hopefully with the idea of helping them make the most of their time at St. Joseph's by taking care of their emotional and psychological well being," Dr. Schultz said.

Dr. Schultz also works with faculty, providing informative presentations on topics such as stress management, trauma and abuse, as well as training in how to recognize and respond to students in crisis. The center has been well received by both students and faculty, who can refer students to the service.

In Brooklyn, the Office of Counseling and Career Development has stepped up its internship, personal counseling and career-oriented programs under the



Joseph Bruno



Christy Jean



Dr. Mary Schultz

guidance of Director Frank LaTerra and his assistant, Lillian Shmulevich, both of whom joined the College last summer. Their new larger quarters in Tuohy Hall have provided extra room for more career, résumé writing and other workshops and computers for job searches, as well as the privacy required for one-on-one personal counseling.

The area of athletics has seen change, too. Brooklyn's newly named Director of Athletics Frank Carbone has guided the addition of two new teams (men's baseball and women's cross country) to the sports roster this year as the campus progresses toward NCAA Division III provisional membership status in 2007-08. And in Suffolk, men's and women's indoor/outdoor track and field teams made their debuts.

Brooklyn also was preparing to unveil a new fitness center (formerly the Rec Room) this month in Tuohy Hall, with cardio and weight rooms and even a part-time athletic trainer. A training room will be added adjacent to the gym.

In other developments, the Office of Diversity Initiatives in Suffolk was restructured as the Office of Multicultural Student Life, and Christy Jean (who was assistant to Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives Rupert Campbell) has assumed the position of associate director of the new office, reporting to Dr. Hudec. Among many other projects, the office recently sponsored "Unity Week," which included a special two-hour common hour presentation by award-winning writer and composer James McBride (see *News Digest* story).

Also in Suffolk, Joseph Bruno has joined the Office of Campus

Ministry as director, replacing longtime director S. Suzanne Franck, Ph.D., who is now teaching full time in the Dept. of Religious Studies. In still another example of the collaborative approach now emphasized in Student Life, Mr. Bruno hopes to jointly sponsor a stress management and spirituality workshop with the Wellness Center's Dr. Schultz.

The Student Life team also revamped orientation activities for this year's entering freshman class. In Brooklyn, new students were treated to a "block party," with Clinton Avenue closed to traffic. Despite the rain, which forced the group beneath a tent, the day was very successful, according to Dr. Hudec. Suffolk freshmen enjoyed a festival-style orientation in the Danzi Athletic Center, where all the student organizations and clubs were represented along with the academic departments. "It went over really well," Dr. Hudec said.

Although there are more projects she would like to pursue (enhanced health services is a top priority), Dr. Hudec is pleased with the progress her department has made. "The staffs on both campuses are just phenomenal," she said, noting that a summer retreat helped to forge closer bonds among the group.

She also expressed gratitude to the faculty, plant staff and administration, adding "I couldn't have done any of this without the support of my colleagues on the President's Council and [College President] S. Elizabeth and [Academic VP] S. Loretta." ■

Photos by William Baker, Michael Banach, Don Hamerman and Claudia Mirzaali

ALUMNUS PROFILE

History Channel, Cablevision honor work of popular teacher

by Meaghan Ginnetty

Although he's far too modest to admit it, Paul Wilgenkamp '98 is something of a local—no, make that national—celebrity.

In 2005, Paul, a teacher at Minnesauke Elementary School in East Setauket, received two prestigious honors: The History Channel's "Save Our History" classroom award and Cablevision's "Leaders in Learning" award. Both honors stem from a remarkable, cross-curricular project that Paul developed in association with the Three Village Historical Society and his sixth-grade class: "Teaching from the Grave."

Paul and his students spent recess, after-school hours and even some weekends in an unusual place, Setauket's Presbyterian Cemetery. Here they conducted research, collecting and interpreting data from the headstones to form a multi-tiered analysis of their local community's past. Investigating everything from infant mortality rates to life expectancy patterns, students unearthed information that would earn them an important place in history—as the first Long Island classroom to be honored by the History Channel.

"I phoned into my class from [the awards ceremony in] DC and told them, 'Look, you all did a great job, but we were one of 16 finalists, so I hope you won't be too disappointed when I tell you . . . WE WON!!!" Paul recalled during an interview.

Despite the hundreds of hours he spent working outside the classroom, Paul's motivation to complete "Teaching from the Grave" was fueled by a simple philosophy. "You



Paul, right, and former student Virginia Ewen accept a proclamation from Dr. Frank Turano, president of the Three Village Historical Society, and Suffolk County Legislator Vivian Viloria-Fisher at the Cablevision event.

just need to light a spark for a lot of these kids," he explained. "To give students real life applications, to find an activity that ties in all the things they've been learning so they can step back and ask, 'Why is this important?' That's what it's all about."

In addition to "Teaching from the Grave," Paul has implemented a number of programs over the years that encourage students to think outside the box. Among these is "I Can Make a Difference," which challenges students to serve members of their local and larger communities. Students have met this challenge head-on by doing everything from donating hair to "Locks of Love" to collecting 600 pounds of clothing for AIDS patients in Africa.

Paul attributes much of his passion for innovative education to his own academic experience at St. Joseph's, where he earned a B.A.

in Child Study/Special Education. He pays special tribute to Associate Professor of Child Study Dr. Jill Levin as "someone who really required me to rise to a new level."

Paul's students share similar praise for him. Virginia Ewen, 13, who participated in the "Teaching from the Grave" project when she was in sixth-grade, calls Paul her "favorite teacher."

"He made learning fun," Virginia said. "I couldn't wait to get up and go to school every morning when we were working on the project."

Perhaps Paul's third and greatest honor—in addition to those bestowed by the History Channel and Cablevision—is evidenced in Virginia's response when asked what she wants to be when she grows up.

"A sixth-grade teacher," she said. Like Mr. Wilgenkamp? "Absolutely." ■

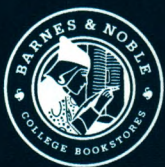
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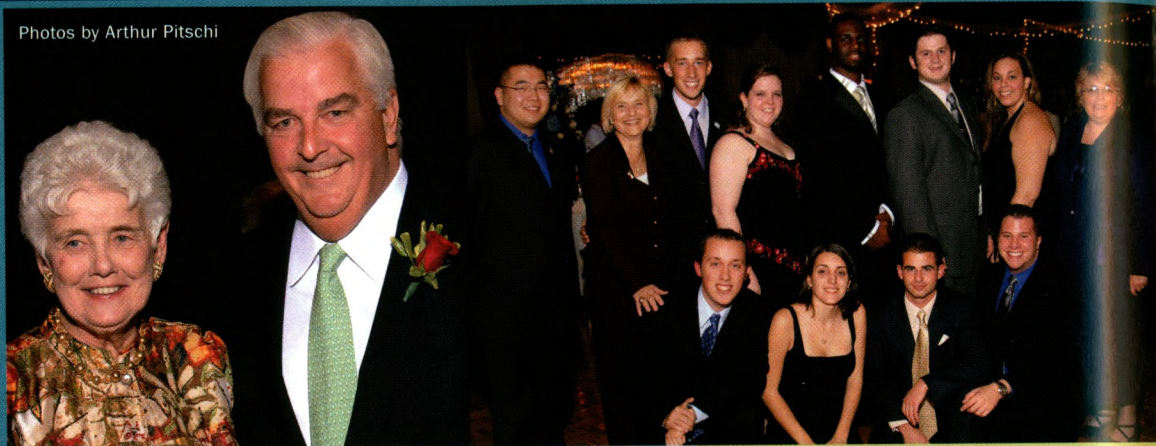


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In recognition of my dear friend,
Elaine Roulet, whose untiring
efforts have no bounds.

-Linda Allegetti

Congratulations and Best Wishes to
Sister Elaine Roulet '66 for
overseeing a wonderful prison
ministry for women and their children
at Bedford Hills Correctional
Center, and to Dennis McCarthy for
your dedication to the Board of
Trustees of St. Joseph's College.
We are blessed by having
you both as honorees.

-Dorothy Bloodgood Kennedy '48

Congratulations to Sister Elaine and
Dennis McCarthy for their outstanding
service to St. Joseph's College.

-Bob & Debbie Nobile

Congratulations, Dennis.

-The Moran Family

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Congratulations, Sister Elaine Roulet and Dennis McCarthy.

-Mike & Nikki Dougherty

Congratulations to Dennis McCarthy and S. Elaine Roulet on an honor well deserved.

-Lisa Rose '97

Providence House celebrates Sister Elaine Roulet, C.S.J., whose courageous spirit and creative vision has been a blessing and inspiration to us all.

-The Sisters, Staff and Board of Directors

We honor Sister Elaine Roulet, C.S.J., for her service to those most in need, for living the beatitudes every day, for walking the talk of mercy every day, for caring so much for others and for enriching our lives.

-The O'Reilly Family



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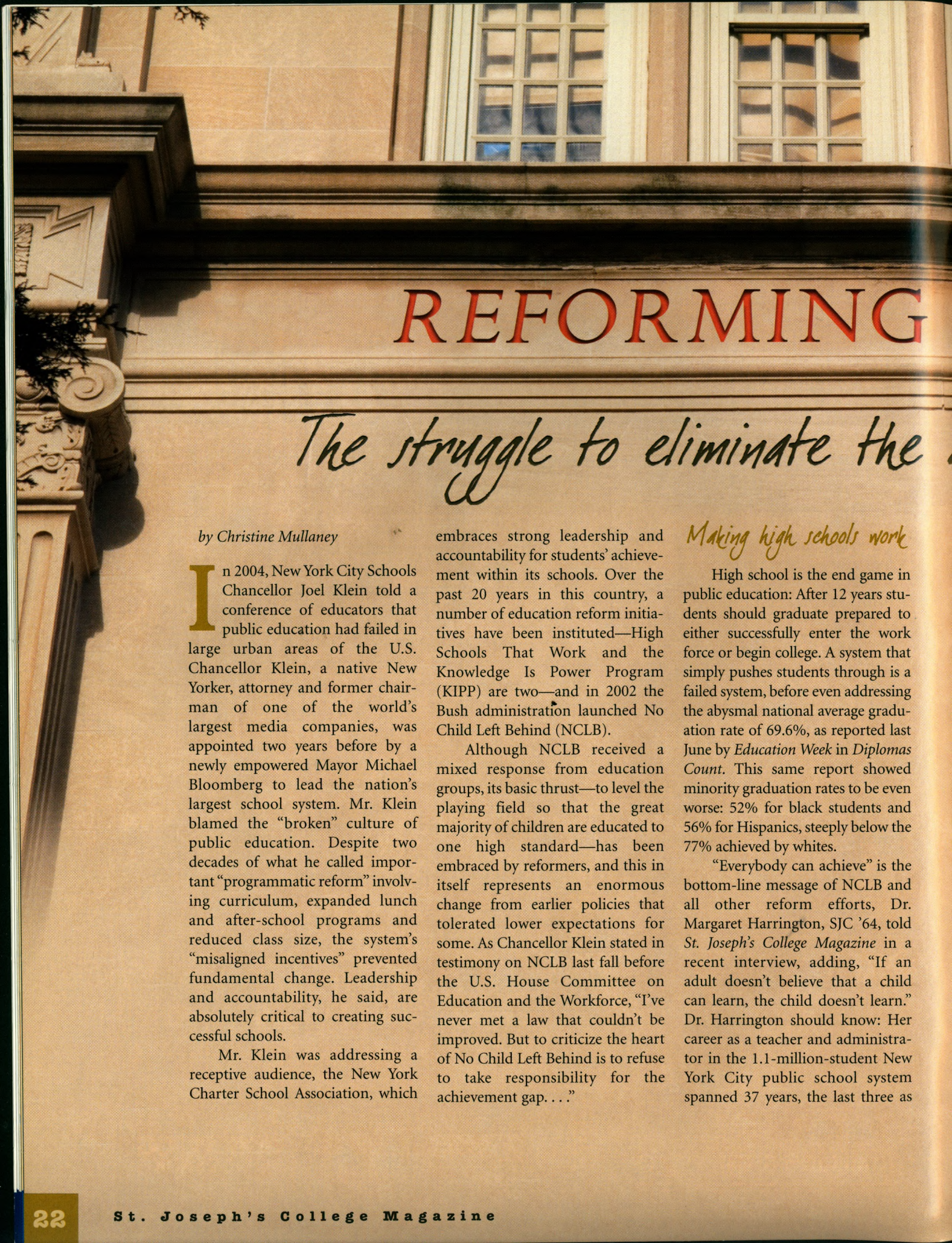
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REFORMING

The struggle to eliminate the

by Christine Mullaney

In 2004, New York City Schools Chancellor Joel Klein told a conference of educators that public education had failed in large urban areas of the U.S. Chancellor Klein, a native New Yorker, attorney and former chairman of one of the world's largest media companies, was appointed two years before by a newly empowered Mayor Michael Bloomberg to lead the nation's largest school system. Mr. Klein blamed the "broken" culture of public education. Despite two decades of what he called important "programmatic reform" involving curriculum, expanded lunch and after-school programs and reduced class size, the system's "misaligned incentives" prevented fundamental change. Leadership and accountability, he said, are absolutely critical to creating successful schools.

Mr. Klein was addressing a receptive audience, the New York Charter School Association, which

embraces strong leadership and accountability for students' achievement within its schools. Over the past 20 years in this country, a number of education reform initiatives have been instituted—High Schools That Work and the Knowledge Is Power Program (KIPP) are two—and in 2002 the Bush administration launched No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

Although NCLB received a mixed response from education groups, its basic thrust—to level the playing field so that the great majority of children are educated to one high standard—has been embraced by reformers, and this in itself represents an enormous change from earlier policies that tolerated lower expectations for some. As Chancellor Klein stated in testimony on NCLB last fall before the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, "I've never met a law that couldn't be improved. But to criticize the heart of No Child Left Behind is to refuse to take responsibility for the achievement gap..."

Making high schools work

High school is the end game in public education: After 12 years students should graduate prepared to either successfully enter the work force or begin college. A system that simply pushes students through is a failed system, before even addressing the abysmal national average graduation rate of 69.6%, as reported last June by *Education Week* in *Diplomas Count*. This same report showed minority graduation rates to be even worse: 52% for black students and 56% for Hispanics, steeply below the 77% achieved by whites.

"Everybody can achieve" is the bottom-line message of NCLB and all other reform efforts, Dr. Margaret Harrington, SJC '64, told *St. Joseph's College Magazine* in a recent interview, adding, "If an adult doesn't believe that a child can learn, the child doesn't learn." Dr. Harrington should know: Her career as a teacher and administrator in the 1.1-million-student New York City public school system spanned 37 years, the last three as



EDUCATION

achievement gap in public schools

the city-wide chief executive of school programs and student support services. She was quietly effecting education reform before it gained political panache.

Like Chancellor Klein, Dr. Harrington strongly believes that leadership is key to bringing about and sustaining change. Setting high expectations for students and staff and supporting those goals through “communication, collaboration and consensus building” was Dr. Harrington’s model in successfully reforming Port Richmond High School on Staten Island, a school beset by low graduation rates and violence when she became principal in 1982, and Andrew Jackson High School, also low-performing and violent, in Queens. She served as superintendent of that borough’s 26 high schools beginning in 1990.

There are common elements to Dr. Harrington’s reform approach that work despite individual school differences. Chief among them is convincing teachers, students and parents that change is possible, in part through a series of class, grade

and school meetings—an essential step because people in failing schools generally don’t believe it. Encouraging teachers with creative ideas by supplying the necessary tools, whether this involves classroom materials or structuring outside experiences that open students to new possibilities, is another.

“You do things that widen what’s possible for them,” explained Dr. Harrington, referencing a program called Widening Educational Boundaries (WEB) in which two female deans—one black, one white—took students who had never been out of their neighborhood to museums and even their own homes. “The deans told them, ‘You can have this, but you need to graduate from high school and go to college. This is totally within your reach.’ The girls were mesmerized,” Dr. Harrington said, adding she still gets “chills” talking about it.

“If you move the bottom, the top will move too,” Dr. Harrington told the Queens high school principals, signaling a renewed focus on addressing behavior, language and

academic problems plaguing those students. Andrew Jackson H.S., with 2,200 students and the largest physical boundaries of any school in the borough, had a proud history but a dismal present. Dr. Harrington first worked collaboratively with a group of leaders—the Queens borough president, the presidents of the teachers’ and supervisors’ unions, the local elected state assemblywoman and the board of education—to agree to redesign the school.

“On a Monday morning I had this group with me,” she recalled, “and first we talked with the principal, then the APs, the union leadership at the school, the teachers and the parents. So, as an act of respect, each constituent group within the community got the information on the same day from the same people. Otherwise, you are chasing rumors.”

Dr. Harrington’s “within-the-system” redesign of Andrew Jackson into the Campus Magnet High Schools was cutting-edge reform. Four smaller schools (separated but housed together in the single origi-



The corridors are empty during class time at Campus Magnet High Schools.

nal building) have replaced it, each attracting a different student constituency: Business, Computer Applications and Entrepreneurship; Humanities and the Arts; Law, Government and Community Service; and Mathematics, Science Research and Technology. In the last 15 years, the small school movement has created many successful schools and attracted strong advocates like Chancellor Klein, but it is not foolproof.

"Refreshing the vision"

"My experience tells me it is not a silver bullet," commented Winifred

Radigan, SJC '69, a secondary school educator for 36 years and a NYC local instructional superintendent (LIS)—a key position in Chancellor Klein's revamped department of education. (There are 10 geographical regions, each with 10 to 12 LISs, who are responsible for bringing "best practices" to an approximately 10-school network each.) Three of her 11 high schools are at Campus Magnet. The reform has worked there, she said, "with constant course correction, refreshing the vision." She thinks smaller is the way to go, but cautioned "it won't work without the support, focus and constant commitment to keep to the agreements." For instance, originally each school's student population was capped at 500, but all four currently exceed this amount. Larger numbers of special education students are an additional challenge, partly a consequence of screening policies by nearby schools.

Which brings up the ramifications of decision-making within an interdependent system, something Win Radigan discussed with *St. Joseph's College Magazine*. Referring to Boston College Professor Andy Hargreaves' principles of sustainable leadership, she said, "Decisions made in one school need to be ecological, which means they cannot hurt surrounding schools, [causing] some schools to fail in some kind of cycle." An example she offered is a school's policy on suspensions, which will affect its neighbors. "You are not an island," she explained. "We are part of a community and our goal is for every child to succeed."

Not far from the Campus Magnet schools is Springfield Gardens High School, where SJC alumna Elizabeth McCullough '74 is principal. Springfield is in "phase-out," another big, troubled school



Victory Schools. The name conveys its mission: to succeed despite challenges and difficulties. Specifically, Victory's goal is to develop outstanding public schools, based on the philosophy that all children can learn. "It's all

Helping children succeed

about the capacity of the adults at the leadership level, at the teacher level and at the guidance level to provide services that make a difference in the lives of their students," explained Victory's Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Margaret Harrington, SJC '64. "The needs," she added, "are different from community to community and school to school."

As are the solutions. Victory, a for-profit agency founded by businessman and education reformer Steven B. Klinsky, creates customized public education options working in partnership with education departments, local school boards, teachers' unions, communi-

ty groups and parents. Among these reforms are charter schools, single gender instruction and small, themed high schools.

Victory opened New York State's first charter public school in 1999 and presently is the largest single provider in the state, managing eight charter schools, with four additional charters submitted, including three for high schools in NYC. Recently, two of Victory's partnership charters were recognized by NYS for the second consecutive year as "High Performing/Gap Closing Schools," an honor awarded to only four state charter schools. Additionally, strong community demand has produced long waiting

whose attendance and graduation rates were among the lowest in NYC when Ms. McCullough was brought in two years ago. "Betty is incredibly talented . . . with extensive experience in alternative schools and reaching each kid," Win Radigan said of the person chosen to guide Springfield's closing. The school will graduate its last students in June. Of the fewer than 200 remaining, "many, but not all, have a good chance" of getting their diplomas, according to Principal McCullough, who has been working with the students and their parents on individual placement plans for those who will need to finish high school elsewhere.

Over the past two years, four other themed Small Learning Communities (SLCs) have replaced Springfield, two regional schools

and two empowerment* schools, part of the chancellor's plan to establish more than 200 SLCs. Ms. McCullough, whose extensive secondary teaching and administrative experience ranges from specialized schools with entrance exams to alternative schools for students over 17, expressed some concerns with the small, themed high schools. Themes are a hook, she said, an enticement to grab and hold a student's interest through four years of high school. The potential downside in her view is expecting 14-year-olds to make knowledgeable choices.

Personalization, which is proactive and supports the development of sustained relationships among teachers and students, is what drives the small school concept. It is the opposite of mass pro-



The neighborhood surrounding the former Andrew Jackson H.S. that Dr. Harrington reformed has also "reflowered," a reflection of the positive changes that Campus Magnet H.S. embodies.

duction and reactive problem solving. "Prevention is aided by personalization," Ms. McCullough pointed out. At Springfield, she established common meeting times for interdisciplinary teams of teachers working with small cohorts of students to discuss each student's progress—not a new practice but also not one typically utilized in large public high schools. "Everybody talking about one student gives you better information and better identifies what the student needs," Ms.

*Empowerment Schools are another of Chancellor Klein's reforms. Principals at these schools wield substantially greater control over hiring, budgets, etc., in return for signing performance agreements that establish expectations and consequences. As of September 2006, there were more than 320 empowerment schools in NYC.

lists at some Victory charters, which Dr. Harrington said have outperformed the local community schools on state examinations.

"Yes, we are dealing with motivated parents in these charters," Dr. Harrington acknowledged. "However, in other schools we deal with the same issues as everyone—single parents, special ed, Title IX, it's across the board—but the way we work with children and parents is different."

Strong parent/teacher programs, parent volunteering and frequent communications with faculty are stressed at all Victory-managed schools, as are partnerships with local community leaders and businesses. Victory utilizes rigorous assessment and testing to measure students' progress, employing a cur-

riculum that emphasizes phonics, comprehension, writing instruction, authentic texts and hands-on science and technology, among many elements that are designed to be mutually reinforcing.

Victory has been in the vanguard of the return to single-sex public schooling, which ended in 1972 under Title IX legislation. A gradual reemergence began about two years ago, and in November the federal government gave its final go-ahead for single-gender classrooms and schools. Today more than 250 public schools offer gender-separate education, mostly in coed schools with single-sex classrooms. However, 50 or so are completely single-sex and most of these are for girls. In 2005, Victory opened the first all-boys public high school in the nation

(since Title IX) and the first in Philadelphia since litigation forced Central High to admit girls in 1983.

Victory was invited to Philadelphia after the failing school district was taken over by the state in December 2001, to assist in the redesign and management of several elementary and middle schools. Today, it partners with three elementary, one middle and two secondary schools there. The company is a senior high school advisor to the largest school district in Delaware and worked with the city of Baltimore for several years to reform a troubled elementary and middle school, averting a pending Maryland takeover. ■

—Mullaney



McCullough said. "A kid is not just a person you have in class for 40 minutes."

Neither is every student who enters ninth grade prepared for high school work. There are large differences among entering high school classes in urban areas, where 90% of the ninth grade class of a screened school may be reading at grade level compared with 50% at a non-selective school a few blocks away. "The smaller unit gives you the opportunity to help every one of these students who has a challenge in a different way," noted Dr. Eileen Petruzillo, SJC '53, presently director of professional development for the Gateway Institute for Pre-College Education (a NYC education partner), and a former superintendent of instruction for NYC high schools.

Developing great leaders

Dr. Petruzillo agrees with Joel Klein that "great principals" are essential to school reform. Developing principals who are instructional leaders is "the single, most important thing I could do" as chancellor, Mr. Klein once said. He and Mayor Bloomberg established a Leadership Academy four years ago to recruit and train new school leaders, who come from the ranks of aspiring principals and new principals tapped to serve in existing schools or open new small schools. Created as an independent, non-profit organization funded by corporate and philanthropic giving, the highly-selective Academy is tough to get into: About 222 women and men have graduated to date and are running schools that serve some of the city's highest-needs populations. Each of these graduates, like any effective principal, brings a deep knowledge of curricular approaches to the job, understands good instruction and how to develop it, and is committed to student achievement. Most of their time is spent in the classrooms.

Private money is also helping New York City fund a variety of initiatives designed to expand opportunities for all high school

youth. These include creation of new transfer schools for students not succeeding in their original high schools, new evening programs for over-age students unable to attend traditional high schools and the development of fresh General Equivalency Diploma (GED) models that link GED preparation to vocational, community college and career and technical programs. Working with grant money and private-sector educational partners, the Department of Education is opening additional small high schools and SLCs within larger schools, several college-prep secondary schools just for girls, and new academically selective secondary schools that will provide greater access to students from traditionally under-represented communities.

From the beginning of his tenure, Chancellor Klein has been a strong supporter of charter schools, for the simple reason that he views charters as another way to create good schools. Today, in 40 states and the District of Columbia, there are close to 4,000 charter schools serving over a million children, including a disproportionate and growing number of poor and minority students. Charters are basically public schools of choice, operating with increased autonomy in return for accountability to their sponsor (typically a state or local school board) for academic and fiscal results over a renewable three-to-five-year contract.

When the current school year started, there were 59 charters serving NYC, including two high schools and another 20 schools planning eventual expansion through grade 12. They are one element of a wide-ranging reform movement that expands educational options, while sharing a common thread of accountability of results and support, improved teaching, participant consensus, standards, testing and sufficient time to create positive change. In the chancellor's words, "Charters are a critical leveraging force in public school reform," offering children one additional route to success. ■

Photos by William Baker

Bears looking for elusive HVAC title

by Frank Carbone



The Bears basketball team entered its 13th consecutive season as members of the Hudson Valley Athletic Conference still hoping for that first title. After dropping a heartbreaker to Berkeley College in the HVAC tournament finals last season, St. Joe's looked to improve on a '05-'06 season that was otherwise nothing short of sensational.

Leading the way were senior captains Lukasz Cygan and Mike Donnelly. Mike led the Bears in assists last season at 3.6 per game, and was the team's second leading scorer at 12.5 points per game. Lukasz, named to the 2005-06 USCAA Academic All-American squad, finished last season second in rebounds at 6.0 per game, and third in scoring at 10 points per game. Chris Olaskiewicz, who tallied 9.6 points and 8.3 rebounds per game last year, was another returnee. ■



Senior Co-Captain
Lukasz Cygan in action

Sports Shorts

Suffolk Women's Volleyball

The team finished the season with 20 victories, the most they have recorded since 2003. Sophomore Elyse Quirk was selected to the Skyline All-Conference Second Team. Freshman Kelsey Masem was named Skyline Rookie of the Week on Oct. 23.

Suffolk Men's Golf

Captain Mike Keaveny and Chris Manzello were named to the Skyline All-Conference Second Team. Chris finished sixth and Mike tied for seventh at the Skyline Championships. The team finished fourth overall.

Suffolk Men's Soccer

Adam Rogers was named to the Skyline All-Conference Second Team after a season in which he led SJC with 41 points and 18 goals. Adam was elected Skyline Rookie of the Week three times during the season. Chris Kunzig (11 goals, 29 points) was named to the Skyline Honor Roll twice in 2006. Tim Trava (SJC '04), Ed Brust and Dan Danbusky are new assistant coaches.

Brooklyn Men's Basketball

2004 SJC graduate Nolan Adams was appointed assistant coach, assuming a lead role in scouting and recruiting for the Bears as part of his coaching duties.

Milestone for Coach Smith

By virtue of the Golden Eagles' 10-win 2006 season, Head Men's Soccer Coach Gary Smith finished the year with 254 career wins,



Tom Finn

Adam Rogers

reaching the 250-victory milestone on Sept. 17. Coach Smith, who founded the men's soccer program in 1986, coached his 21st season for St. Joseph's this year. Entering the 2006 season, he ranked 28th on the NCAA Division III Men's Soccer Winningest Active Coaches list.

Suffolk Women's Tennis

Colleen Fitzgerald and Jessica McDonald were named to the Skyline All-Conference Second Team. Danielle Rafrano was named Skyline Rookie of the Week on Sept. 25. The team welcomed new Assistant Coach Joel Sutherland.

Brooklyn Athletes Honored

Student-athletes and coaches received awards based on their performances during the fall season:

USCAA National All-American: Magdalena Wiecek (volleyball)

USCAA National Academic All-Americans: Christina Ament, Magdalena Wiecek, Marzena Stadnicka and Svetlana Medvedeva (all volleyball).

Suffolk Women's Soccer

The Lady Eagles received their first-ever invitation to the ECAC Metro Tournament. Tracy Thalhamer and Jackie Barbour were both selected to the Skyline All-Conference Second Team. Tracy, who was named Skyline Rookie of the Week on Oct. 16, led the team with 16 points. Courtney Caden (7 goals, 15 points) was named ECAC Metro and Skyline Player of the Week Oct. 16. ■

CAN'T GET TO THE GAMES?

For continuing updates on St. Joseph's intercollegiate men's and women's athletic teams, including game schedules, scores, news releases, etc., check out the SJC Web site at

www.sjcnj.edu

(click on Athletics).

Women's cross country wins Skyline title

by Frank Flandina



The women's cross country team in Suffolk captured the Skyline Conference Championship on Oct. 29 as runners Katie Baudier, Michelle Petrina, Jessica Kirsch and Bridget Kissinger each finished in the top 10 at the event. The Lady Eagles placed six runners in the top 13 spots and finished with a five-person average of 22:50 in the 5,000-meter course.

The win was the team's fourth Skyline Conference title. By virtue of their top 10 finish, Katie, Michelle, Jessica and Bridget each earned a spot on the Skyline All-Conference team.

The men's team ended the day with a fifth place finish on the 8,000-



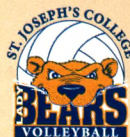
Tom Finn

meter course and a 32:00, 5-person average. Tyler Eckhoff and Alan Zollo earned Skyline All-Conference honors with top 10 finishes.

Earlier in the season, Tyler and Katie both finished first in their respective races at the SJC Cross Country Invitational and were crowned individual champions. Katie became the College's third women's individual champion, Tyler the first-ever men's champion in the seven-year history of the event. ■

Lady Bears earn third straight tourney title

by Frank Carbone



Brooklyn's Lady Bears swept past local rival Mount St. Vincent 3-0 in the HVWAC volleyball championship game to earn their third consecutive tournament title. In addition to finishing the season with a 21-2 record, the Ladies received their second consecutive bid to compete in the U.S. Collegiate Athletic Association's National Tournament.

Despite losing their first two games of the season in the highly competitive national tournament, the team advanced to the semi-final round before falling to Rochester

College. The Final Four appearance on the national stage helped St. Joe's steamroll its way to the HVWAC's regular season title, completing an undefeated campaign at 9-0 and not dropping a single in-conference game throughout the 2006 season, with an impressive 27-0.

Star player Magdalena Wiecek was chosen for the USCAA National All-American team and received All-Conference honors from the Hudson Valley Conference for the third straight season. Also playing a key role was Marzena Stadnicka, who received the HVWAC Tournament's MVP award for her performance. ■



Volleyball star player Magdalena Wiecek

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Lorraine Pierro '01

Matthew Ruppert '02

Patrick Sarubbi '00

Patricia Villa '99, M '02

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ALUMNIlink

Career shift brings teacher to Spain, and beyond

by Meghan Ginnetty



As an SJC undergraduate, Chris Albano was happily working toward a degree in human relations when the universe started pulling him in a slightly different direction. "My mom was always a teacher," Chris said. "And I kept having that nagging thought in the back of my head: Am I supposed to be a teacher?"

As his 2001 graduation date drew closer, Chris decided to double up on his child study classes and visit a friend teaching in the South Bronx, fellow SJC alumna Kimberly Heffernan.

"She let me teach two lessons to her fourth grade class, and I absolutely loved it," Chris recalled. "When I was leaving, the kids were crying, asking, 'Are you going to come back?'"

Chris did come back, and his teaching experiences inspired him to apply to New York City Teaching Fellows, a program that allowed him to work toward his master's in education while teaching in some of the most socioeconomically disadvantaged parts of the city.

He taught fifth grade at East Tremont Avenue Crotona P.S. 57 for the next two years. "They put you in hard-to-staff schools where you can see that you're making a difference," he said. "If you can do that for two years, you can do anything."

Teaching in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood, Chris was determined to

strengthen his Spanish language skills, so he enrolled in an intensive summer program at Windsor Academy in Madrid, Spain. "I went with the intention of learning to become more conversational," Chris said. "Just so I could better communicate with my kids and their families."

Chris excelled in his classes in Spain and soon was offered a permanent position teaching English to students ages 5 through 18 at Windsor Academy. He also was hired by a company called Training Express as a part-time consultant to work one-on-one with business executives, aiding in translations and training personnel in English.

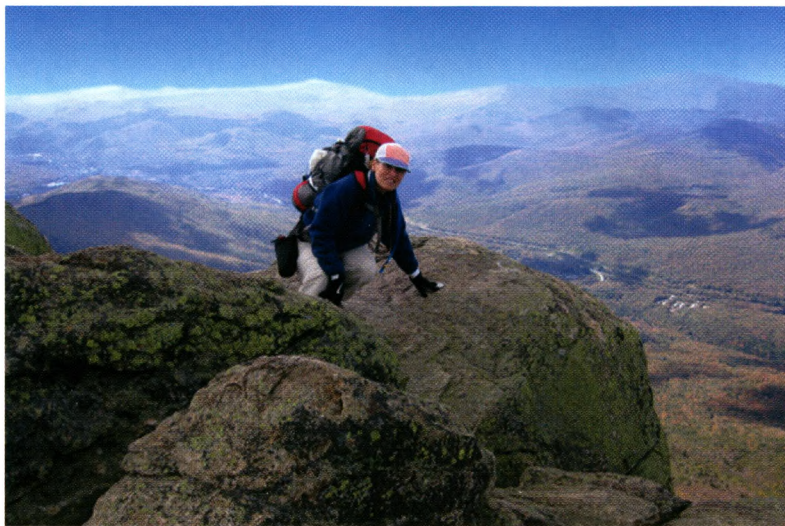
Chris said the study abroad program in Salamanca, Spain, that he took as a student at SJC triggered his passion for the Spanish language and culture. "I loved the lifestyle," he recalled. "I always wanted to get back there."

Currently residing in Spain, Chris has developed an intense love for travel within the EU and abroad. Last summer, he journeyed to the Philippines, an experience he called a "true eye opener."

"In the Bronx, I thought that was poverty," Chris said. "But in the Philippines, you actually see homeless children sleeping on the street . . . things like that touch you." Chris was so moved by what he saw that he has applied to teach English in the Philippines and may be making his move soon. ■

Outdoorswoman calls White Mountains home

by Susan Kane



When Dorothy Cosentino DiBona '71 heard about a mountain hiking trip that was being organized in her small town of Waterville Valley, NH, she recalled thinking, "What the heck, I might enjoy that."

As it turned out, the experience—which included climbing all four peaks of the Wildcat Mountain Ridge in 95-degree weather—sparked a new passion for the adventure-loving retired teacher of the deaf and hearing-impaired. "We hiked about 10 miles and gained over 3,000 feet in elevation [that day]," Dorothy said during a recent interview. "It was a long day, but I had such a great feeling of accomplishment that I was hooked."

Over the next few years, Dorothy and a small group of friends set out to qualify for membership in the Appalachian Mountain Club's "Four Thousand Footer Club," formed in 1957 to

bring hikers to less-frequented summits of the White Mountains of New Hampshire. After hiking on foot to and from each of the 48 required peaks—some of which had never before been climbed—Dorothy became an official Four Thousand Footer this past October.

But Dorothy, a child study major at SJC who went on to earn a master's in deaf education from NYU, has long been enamored of the Great Outdoors. While living in Brooklyn and teaching in a deaf and hearing-impaired program in the New York City public schools, she and her husband, Mark, would head to upstate NY to hike most weekends. Their desire to live in a more rural area prompted a move to New Hampshire in 1977. Dorothy continued teaching until the birth of her first child, Elizabeth, now a senior at Brown University School of Dentistry. The DiBonas have two other daughters,

Doria, a practicing attorney, and Nina, a senior at Brown U.

Avid skiers themselves, Dorothy and Mark introduced their children to alpine ski racing early on. The girls continued skiing through high school and college, all three eventually racing for Brown U. Dorothy herself has raced for the last nine years. "I usually ski over 125 days each season," she said.

Dorothy and her husband also enjoy snowshoeing in their town, which is surrounded by 770,000 acres of national forest. "I need to drive 20 miles to the supermarket, but it's worth it to live in such a serene area," she said. "A ride to the store can be breathtaking, and often a moose or fox or coyote can be seen running by."

Members of the Four Thousand Footer Club can move on to hike peaks in Vermont and Maine and thereby earn a place in the New England Four Thousand Footers Club, and some go on to climb "New England's Hundred Highest." But Dorothy is in no hurry to embark on a new list of challenging hikes—at least not right now—and she's content to stay close to home revisiting some of the peaks she has already mastered.

"When friends ask if I want to travel more when my husband retires, I can't help feeling that I really don't," she explained. "I'm happy right where I am because the White Mountains have everything that I love and enjoy." ■

Read it and flinch: alumnus publishes horror novel

by Meaghan Ginnetty



By day he is the chief health administrator of the Westhampton Care Center. But by night he lets the blood pour through his pen and onto the pages of his next horror novel. St. Joseph's College alumnus and author of *The Literary Six*, Vince Liaguno is, in his own words, "a very happy health care administrator who just happens to enjoy writing these gory books!"

Vince has been caring for the elderly since he was 17; he started as an orderly, worked his way up to therapeutic recreation and eventually received his health administrator's license after graduating from St. Joseph's Suffolk Campus with honors in 1999. In the beginning of 2006, Vince received the prestigious New Administrator of the Year Award from the New York Chapter of the American College of Health Care Administrators. Today he runs the Westhampton Care Center, his

self-described "dream job," and is a contributing editor to the national magazine *Autograph Collector*.

So far, so good. But where does the horror fit in?

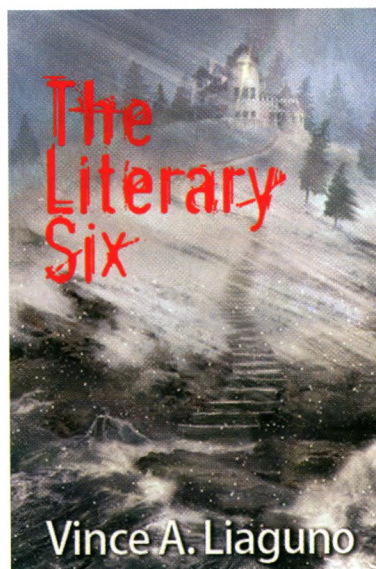
"Horror is terribly underestimated," explained Vince, who first fell in love with the genre as a child, sitting in a dark theater watching *Halloween* with his father. "I got hooked on the whole idea of being scared, but in a safe, controlled setting—it's like a therapeutic release of fears."

For those that scoff at the oftentimes trite, not to mention very bloody, plotlines surrounding the slasher films of the '80s, Vince wrote *The Literary Six*. He envisioned it as a more literary (pardon the pun) interpretation of those same graphic images from his favorite films, made cohesive by placing strong emphasis on characterization.

"I didn't set out to write the next great American novel," Vince said, laughing. "I wrote a book I wanted to read . . . about something I'm passionate about."

After two years dedicated to writing *The Literary Six*, Vince wanted to make sure the manuscript didn't end up collecting dust on his bookshelf. "10 percent is writing the novel," he said. "90 percent is getting it out there, getting your name known."

His motivation to self-publish brought him to Outskirts Press, where his work "not only has seen the light of day, but has gotten good reviews," according to Vince. He credits St. Joe's for instilling in him



this sense of entrepreneurship. "As one of the first people [to graduate] from Weekend College, I took away such a spirit of being an entrepreneur," Vince said. "That's one of the things I loved about St. Joe's."

Vince will be hitting all the major horror conventions during his 2007 book tour and already is hard at work on novel number two. Inquiring minds wonder: Where does he find the time?

"I survived 13 years of Catholic school education," Vince joked. "I learned discipline at a very early age."

If *The Literary Six* was a homage to slasher flicks, his next novel (tentatively titled *The Renewed*) is a homage to sci-fi. "It's an eclectic mix of *Invasion of Body Snatchers* meets *Village of the Damned* meets [the musical] *Little Shop of Horrors*," Vince said. "Wonderful, horrific mayhem!" ■

Accepted to graduate school? Getting married? Ready to retire and take that long awaited trip around the world? That's great news, and we'd like to share it with the rest of the College community in Class Notes. Please submit news items and photos either through your class agent, or through the Publications Office (319 West Roe Blvd., Patchogue, NY 11772; fax: 631.447.8261; e-mail: skane@sjcny.edu). Please include your graduation year and degree (B.A., B.S., M.S., M.A., M.B.A.) earned. Thank you!

Compiled by Daria Liles

1930s

Jean Stone '38 is enjoying life in her senior community as she approaches the "Big 90."

Eleanor Van Wagner Nace shared news from the Class of 1939. **Connie Giampietro Annucci** and her husband, Al, still live in New Jersey near their family. **Carmela Napoli Loizzo** lives in Vermont near some of her grandchildren. Eleanor splits her time between Cape Cod and Siesta Key, FL. **Geraldine Donnelly Chapey** is still active in politics and on the Board of Higher Education. **Catherine E. McLaughlin** is an active 88-year-old living in Tallahassee, near her son.

1940s

From the Class of 1941, **Margaret McDerby Shea** wrote that **Adele Mulligan Seymour** is responding well to treatment for pancreatic cancer and may visit Paris with her family. **Lorraine Schultheis Vaccari** lives near her daughter on L.I. and spends winters in Wellington, FL. **Connie Cohen Singer** has two sons and one daughter. **Margaret Murphy Kiefer** lives in an assisted living residence in Atlanta. **Joan Ghegan Moran** resides in Bay Ridge.

Virginia Worgull Davis '42 welcomed her first great-grandchild in July. She recently visited upstate NY with classmates **Veronica McGrath Lynch**, **Helen Fennelly Reilly Buckley**, **Rosemary O'Halloran** and **Sarah Cooney Steets**.

Genevieve Fountaine '44 retired from the NYC Board of Education.

S. Anita R. Paglia, C.S.J. '44 is retired and living at Maria Regina Residence in Brentwood, NY.

Clare Bauch shared news of the Class of 1945. **Eileen McDermott Ott** has moved to Ocean View, NJ, close to her family. **Janet Blessing** has moved from Forest Hills to Cape May, NJ. **Rose Prince DiVernieri** came to the fall luncheon with her daughter, **Josephine DiVernieri '73**. **Edith Voelker Piazza** is recovering and looking forward to a reunion. **Peggy Meagher Lundebjerg** has moved to a resident facility in Melville, NY, after having hip surgery. **May Whalen Gronell** is also in a resident facility in Melville, NY. **Margaret Millus Maroldy** is back home after a hospital stay. **Helen Golden Brown** lives in Greenville, NY, where she was both a teacher and a guidance counselor. **Grace Leary Schmitt** is feeling well in Texas. **Grace Olsen Egan** is back near her children in Morristown, NJ.

News from the Class of 1947: **Anne Dannemiller Louthan**, **Marie Mallon McCormack**, **S. Mary Florence Burns '46**, **Helen Sullivan McGregor '46**, **Jeanne Mullen**, **Virginia Swift**, **Mary Flanagan Rigaut** and **Clare Bauch '45** enjoyed a reunion at the spring luncheon. Virginia takes art classes at the Art Student League in Manhattan. **Virginia McKeon Wright** and her husband enjoy square dancing. **Helen Dunne Carrigan** is active in the East Meadow Mercy League and enjoys taking cruises. **Norma Cirino** raves about her grandnephew, John Paul. **Gloria Ortolani Amorsi** visited Alaska. The classmates are looking forward to the 60th anniversary of their graduation. Many are admirers of **Marie E. O'Connor '31** and were touched by her 9/11 tribute poem, published in the Spring 2006 College magazine.

1950s

Marie Guarracini Cimino '50 welcomed her first grandson, Andrew Franklin Cimino.

Jerry Hanlon Weiss reports on the Class of 1951. Jerry moved to Shelburne, VT, last fall but still summers at her Shelter Island house. **Bea Brennan '39** introduced Jerry via e-mail to one of her classmates, **Carmella Loizzo '39** of VT. **Margaret LaCerra** and Jerry represented the class at the spring reunion, along with 12 others. **Gertrude Agoglia**, Bea and Jerry met several times for lunch. **Jean Gagliardo** was planning a trip to Italy with I.P.P. National Level OSIA.

Maureen Dougherty Fraser shared news from the Class of 1953. **Alice Fraser Devereux**, **Eileen Corbett Brown** and Maureen attended **Helen McGrover Burns'** and her husband Steve's 50th wedding anniversary party. **Gerry Flynn Lemay-Cioffero's** 75th birthday party brought together **Marie Johnson Wittek**, **Janis Eltz** and Maureen. Marie has been appointed to the N.Y. State Employment Relations Board. Janis spent three weeks in the U.K.; last year she was an adjunct at Fordham University. **Victoria T. Morey** and her husband, Norman, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary, while **Mary Zopf** and her husband celebrated their 50th.

Mary Schlusser Regan '54 helped initiate the "Mount Manresa Circle of Friends" at the Jesuit Retreat House on Staten Island in 2005, now grown to 300 members.

Ann Bauch sent news from the Class of 1956. Congratulations to **S. Miriam Lucille Montella** on her 50th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph; **Betty Savino Acerra**, **Brinda Stack Frappollo** and **Mary Emilio Stack-Laiken** were among those who celebrated with Sister. **Lucille Waters Granfort** and husband, Sal, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. **Joan Reardon Dillon**, **Anne Porter Molanphy**, **Jackie Taaffe Coleman**, **Winnie Cavanagh Malone**, **Anna**

Costello Stellwag, Angela Alexander Maher, Mary Engelskirger Seery and **Mickey Burke Eldon** met for lunch last summer. Lucille and Betty joined those above at the fall luncheon.

Carole Imbriale Langlois '58 has retired from teaching math at Broward Community College after 20 years.

Maureen T. Butler '59 is retired, dividing her time between Venice, FL, and the Poconos.

1960s

Maureen Price '61 and her husband, Brendan, have seven grandchildren.

Mary Collins Macchiarola reports from the Class of 1962. Mary hosted a luncheon for some classmates, including **Pat Sweeney, Pat Jesinkey Palmer, Eileen Fitzgerald Troy, Anne Byrnes Concannon, Noreen Doherty, Rosemary McDonald Ahern, Claire Lavin O'Regan, Fran Sullivan Brennan** and **Ginny O'Rourke McLaughlin**. Last September, Ginny and Fran traveled through South Africa. Anne and her husband, Tom, cruised to Nova Scotia to celebrate Tom's 70th birthday. Claire and her husband, Tim, now reside in Breezy Point; Claire teaches at the College of New Rochelle. Noreen volunteered as a sailing instructor for the National Park Service. After seven grandchildren, Rosemary welcomed the first surnamed Ahern, Maura Megan. **Mary Ann Weindler** enjoyed a 19-day visit to Germany.

Elizabeth Williams Auricchio updated news from the Class of 1963. **Anne Larkin Wilkins** visited with **Barbara Grace Ritter** north of Orlando, FL. Anne and her husband, Cliff, plan to winter there. **Julie-Anne Wanzel** and her husband, Charlie, and Elizabeth and her husband, Bill, met serendipitously at the Back Side Inn in New Hampshire, which is owned by Julie and Charlie's daughter. **Anne Dawson Falzone** is on the management team for development of middle and high school social studies textbooks for Prentice Hall. **Kathy Coyle Testa** is working part time for a teacher-testing company. **Helen Wagner Cloherty, Susan Endzull, Penny Madden Moroney, Anne Millin Schrage, Noreen McMahon Merz**

and Julie had a mini-reunion at the River Café. **Kathryn Kiernan O'Malley** moved to Mt. Vernon and welcomed a granddaughter, Ella. Helen welcomed a granddaughter, Mairead Aileen Cloherty.

Carole Kuklis Oberheim, now retired, said all 15 of the Oberheims gathered for her eldest grandson's first communion.

Fran Mautone Di Giacomo and husband, Joe, celebrated their 41st anniversary. Fran is a clinical dietician at the Eliza Jennings Nursing Home in Cleveland, OH. **Mary Callahan Brown**, Kathryn and Elizabeth enjoyed a mini-reunion at the fall luncheon. Anne Schrage and husband, Rich, moved from Manhattan to Staten Island.

Cathy Vesey O'Neill shared news from the Class of 1964. Some classmates met for dinner at the Grace Institute, which **Mary Mulvihill** directs. **Mary Sweeney Casey** is the School to Career Coordinator at Keansbury H.S. in NJ and will retire in June. **Eileen Lanigan Nickoloff** is a forensic toxicologist at the Alaska Public Health Laboratory; she has lived in Alaska for 15 years.

Rosalie Corlito Henderson '65 retired from public school teaching and is teaching Spanish full time at Parish Episcopal School in Dallas, TX.

In Class of '66 news, **Marge Baudo** is an R.N. at St. Vincent's Catholic Medical

Center, where she works with active duty and retired military and their families on L.I. and in the Tri-State area. **Joan Miley Danehy** is retired from SUNY Morrisville, while **Jane L. Horn** recently retired from Great Neck North Middle School, where she was a special education assistant.

Marie Anderson Provanzana shared news from the Class of 1967. **Pat Dyas Donofrio** teaches first grade in Prince George County, MD, and recently received the University of Maryland's "Mentor Teacher" award. **Maureen Lynch Boyle** commutes to Bay Ridge's P.S. 170, where **Connie Buccellato Friedrich** also teaches. She reports that **Agnes Boyle O'Leary** and **Maureen McGarry Nalewajk** are fine. She also is in contact with **Mary Lou Valletta Gladstone**. Mary Lou is affiliated with New York State Arts Council and has her own jewelry line, which can be viewed at www.mlvdesigns.com. Marie is working part time and enjoying retirement with her husband. **Louise Belvedere Caldi**, a widow after 35 years of marriage to Daniel, lives in Annapolis, MD, and works for the Smithsonian Institution. **Priscilla O'Connell** is an assistant principal at Martin de Porres H.S. in Brooklyn, NY. **Marion Cyzewski Doerr** cruised to Europe and welcomed a new granddaughter.



Alumni enjoyed a "Day at the Races" in September, an annual event held at Belmont. From left: Susan Burke '68, Joanne Danaher Shea '66, Clare Collins '69, Dianne Piwinski '72, Marianne Traviglia Ferrara '69, Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69 and Sigrid Brandt Frawley '73.

STAYING IN TOUCH

To learn more about alumni activities, serve at an alumni event, reach your class news agent or to update your records, please contact us in the Office of Alumni Relations:

Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69

Executive Director
Alumni Relations and Stewardship
St. Joseph's College
245 Clinton Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11205
718.636.6882

Matthew Colson '02

Associate Director
Alumni Relations
St. Joseph's College
319 West Roe Blvd.
Patchogue, NY 11772
631.447.3215

We'd love to hear about what you and your classmates are doing. So give us a call, drop us a line, e-mail us at alumni@sjcnj.edu or check out our Web site at www.sjcnj.edu.

Let's stay connected!

Remembering Cecilia



The Class of 1970 honored their classmate, Cecilia Kennion Socci, by dedicating the Convent Gardens on SJC's Brooklyn Campus in her memory on October 30, 2005. The Rev. Tom Ahern blessed the garden and the Sisters of St. Joseph's College Convent hosted a reception afterward for more than 40 of Celie's classmates, family members and friends, who together raised over \$13,000 for the memorial. Among those attending were (photo above) Valerie Wertz Quinlan, Margaret Dwyer Minson, Diane Brusca Bronkhurst, Carmela Cassa Mehserle, Linda Salamy Szabo, Mary Mone Dorney, Elaine Grasser Blumenthal, Mary Buckley Teatum, Michele Azenaro Bracco, Maria Falconetti, Virginia Kirby Brown and Antoinette Vasile Sennick, all from the Class of '70.

Long Island Wine Tasting Tour



Alumni and guests enjoyed a picture-perfect day of wine tasting on L.I.'s East End on Sept. 30, visiting three wineries and having lunch at the Martha Clara Vineyard. Sixty-five people attended the Suffolk Alumni Office event, traveling on two luxury limo buses from the Suffolk Campus. The day was so successful that it will be repeated next fall.

Ruth K. Necco '68 has two granddaughters.

From the Class of '69, **Lorraine Jacob Bloomfield** and her husband, Karl, welcomed their first grandchild. **Anna Rose Geary** retired from the public schools after 30 years and is now teaching at Guardian Angel Regional Catholic School in Staunton, VA. **Roseann Quinn** presented a paper at the Thomas Hardy Conference in Dorchester, England, entitled "Hardy and the American High School Student." She has been asked to submit the paper for publication in the Thomas Hardy Society's journal.

1970s

Joanne Peluso '70 retired from teaching.

Class of '73 alumnae **Dorothy Michaels** and **Beth White McCue** attended the wedding of **Marcella Maher Freisen's** daughter, Ellen.

James Darnowski '74 and **Karen Darnowski '75** have been married for 30 years and have four children. Jim is a cancer research scientist and an associate professor at Brown University. Karen runs a home playgroup.

Bill Gorman shared news from the Class of 1975. **Anne Mulligan** presented a

paper at the 15th International Congress of the New York Chaucer Society on "Text and Image in the Ellesmere Manuscript: Reading the Portraits in the General Prologue." Bill has been reappointed to a second three-year term on the board of Nazareth Regional H.S., Brooklyn, NY. **Barbara Ross Antonucci** co-published a book, *No Stable Too Small*, a collection of Christmas plays 25 years in the making.

Catherine Liberatori '76 is a technology coordinator at Saint Joseph H.S., Brooklyn, NY.

1980s

Rose Ann Orlando '80 welcomed a new grandson and two new great-grandsons.

Janine Kieran '83 is an assistant principal at George Westinghouse H.S. in Brooklyn, NY.

Sarah Baptiste '86 has retired.

John Amato '87 has been named principal of J. Taylor Finley Middle School in Huntington, NY.

Cynthia Armstrong '87, who teaches early childhood special education in Beaufort, SC, was selected as a TAP

(Teacher Advancement Program) mentor teacher. In May she was chosen as the 2006-07 Teacher of the Year.

Cathleen Kennedy Srour '88 is teaching health promotion in the Allied Health Department at St. Francis College and is a National Board Certified clinical hypnotherapist.

1990s

Charles Hilgendorf '91 and **Bridget Leavens-Hilgendorf '98** announced the birth of their son, Charles Thomas, born May 2006.

William Bodkin '92 married Lauren McCormick, daughter of **Patricia Dawson McCormick '61** and niece of **Anne Dawson Falzone '63** and **Mary Dawson '65**, in Ireland last August. William is an attorney in New York.

Bernice Minott '92 and her husband, Richard, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

News from the Class of '94: **Matthew Barbis** was featured as a "Community Champion" in a *Newsday* article describing the stranger safety program Matt created to reduce child abductions. **Lisa Martinelli-Bowman** was promoted to



Celebrating the wedding of Laurie O'Dowd '73 and Michael Piccinni on May 13, 2006, are, standing from left: Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69, Virginia O'Rourke McLaughlin '62, the happy bride, Rose Prince Di Vernieri '45 and Josephine Di Vernieri '73. Seated: Mary Louise Hiler Mumford '73. Congratulations to Laurie and Michael!



Maureen and Christopher A. Kaiser '94 welcomed their first child, Courtney Gerise, on August 17. Courtney weighed in at 6 lbs. 7 ozs. and measured 20 1/2" long. Congratulations, Maureen and Christopher!

partner of Owen Peterson & Co., LLP.

Paulette Gebhard '95 and her husband, Robert, welcomed a son, Hayden Robert, in February 2006.

Congratulations to **Adele DeLuca Bonanzinga '96**, who was married in July 2006.

Christopher Ferraro '97 is engaged to Catherine Cuccia; a July 2007 wedding is planned. He is working as a pastoral associate at Christ the King Parish in Commack.

Lauren Grippaldi '98 is a kindergarten teacher in the East Williston S.D. and

recently bought a condominium in Port Washington.

Happy news from the Class of '99: **Jennifer Leeb**, an inventory analyst for Cablevision in Jericho, NY, is engaged to Eric Veit; a June 2008 wedding is planned. **Lorraine Gyss-Macholz** and Jeff Macholz were married in October 2005. **Susan Lynn Shephard** and John J. Ferrannini III tied the knot in August 2006. Susan is a special education teacher in the Schenectady City S.D.

2000s

Keith Kolar '00 was elected to the Sayville School Board. He is a fifth-grade teacher at Frank J. Cannon Southeast Elementary School in Brentwood.

Shannon McElhone '00 was named Medicaid Service Coordinator of the Year by United Cerebral Palsy of Suffolk County and represented the agency at the Medicaid Service Coordination Forum.

Obosa Osawe '01 has received her medical degree and recently was married.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Brady '02** and Robert J. Madigan, who wed in April 2006.

Best wishes to **Aimee Jackson '03** and James Springer, who were married in June 2006. Aimee is a teacher in the Sachem Central S.D.

Class of '04 news: **Catherine Wanda Brennan** is a member of the National Communication Association and will be



Best wishes to newlyweds Jessica Kreitsch '02 and Nicholas Tomeo, who were married September 2. A total of 22 SJC alumni, including many family members, were in attendance. Jessica is a speech-language pathologist at Heart Share Human Services First Step Preschool.

an adjunct professor at Hofstra University this spring. **Evelyn M. Blinn** has retired after working for Suffolk County for 38 years. **Frank R. Favilla** is employed at the American Red Cross national headquarters.

Congratulations to **Linda Dyroff '05** and Jason Donofrio, who were married in July 2006. Linda is a teacher in the Middle Country S.D.

Kelly Fechter '06 published an article for radiology professionals in *RT Image*, a weekly news magazine.

Bryan K. Gill '06 joined the Office of Student Life at SJC as an administrative assistant and is a 2006 class agent. ■

Alumni Actors Reunion



Former members of the Brooklyn Campus' Dramatic Society and Chapel Players came together for a reunion reception in October hosted by the Brooklyn Alumni Office. The reception was followed by a performance of Months on End, a comedy presented by the current Chapel Players.

Alumni Fall Luncheon



Photos by Steve Birkeland

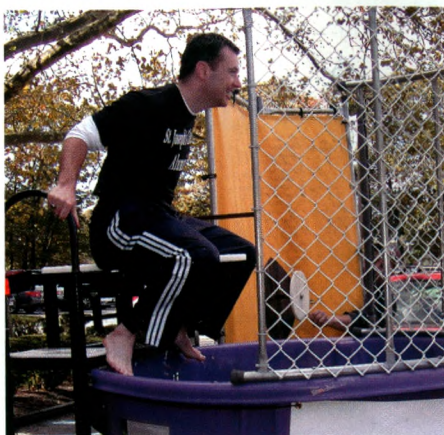
Alumni representing a variety of class years attended the annual Fall Luncheon on Oct. 28 at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Pictured at left with SJC President S. Elizabeth Hill '64 are the luncheon committee members who organized the successful event. From left: Mary Callahan Browne '63, Mary Margaret Farley May '59, S. Elizabeth, Eileen Moloney Graziani '59 (chairwoman) and Delores Estes Brannigan '59. Photo right: Alumni Executive Board members gather for a group photo in the elegant Roosevelt Hotel. From left: Elizabeth Williams Auricchio '63, Laurie O'Dowd Piccinni '73, Dianne Piwinski '72, Carole Rooney Morris '61, Josephine DiVernieri '73, Virginia O'Rourke McLaughlin '62, Patricia Sweeney '62, William Gorman '75 (president), Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69 and Mary Buckley Teatum '70.

Alumni Leadership Forum



The Brooklyn Alumni Office hosted a forum in September to introduce alumni to leadership opportunities within the College, such as mentoring current students and sponsoring internships at their workplaces. Photo left (l-r): Exec. Director of Alumni Relations and Stewardship Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69, Dean of Students Dr. Susan Hudec, Elizabeth Williams Auricchio '63 and Bridget Farrell '71. Photo right: recent graduates Lisa Finley '03 and Vanessa Barrios '00 with 1993 alumnus John Fitzgerald.

Making A Difference



Associate Director of Alumni Relations Matt Colson '02 (photo left) prepares to take a plunge into the dunk tank that was hosted, along with a children's safety puppet show and talk by Matthew Barbis '94 (photo right), by the Alumni Office at this year's Make A Difference Day. Alumni and their families were among the hundreds that turned out for the free children's carnival, sponsored by Suffolk's Office of Campus Ministry.



Alumni Voices

Fiftieth class reunion like coming 'home'

by Brinda Stack Frappollo '56



"Crossing the street, my eyes filled with tears as we began a slow walk though the halls where it had all begun."

Going back: the shock of recognition, followed by a strange dream-like state, as if I had never left.

The street was heavy with spring on this city-Sunday. Trees—taller now, more stately—almost obscured what I had waited so long, traveled so far, to see. Through the years, a recurrent dream took me back over and over again, always searching for people or rooms I couldn't find. I was displaced, sometimes finding myself in a new, unfamiliar building. As time went on and the dreams continued, the building I was seeking grew larger, the walls higher, until eventually they were of solid stone; or I was in the old building, catching glimpses of what I was trying to find, but never successful in my quest, the people or things I sought narrowly eluding me.

But now, I was here at last! Had I stepped out of a dream, or back into one, I thought, as I stood before the building I remembered so well? Looking down on me, it seemed to say: "Ah, there you are. I've been waiting for you. Where have you been? And why have you waited so long to come . . . home?"

I was stunned by how unchanged things were. Or were my eyes seeking only the old and familiar, the newer buildings receding into the background? Then suddenly, the Greek Theatre appeared before my disbelieving eyes. Rumor had it that it had been taken down years before. The outdoor stage, scene of so many Baccalaureate Sundays, graduations—the stage

from which we said our goodbyes so many years ago—still stood! I climbed the steps and looked down on the green, teeming with memories: archery, field day, quiet walks with friends. It was the same.

Crossing the street, my eyes filled with tears as we began a slow walk though the halls where it had all begun. Further on, and in the older building, I was searching for a particular place. From the moment I thought I might return, I knew I had to revisit the English conference room. I remembered only that it was deep in the recesses of the building, and high up. So when a staircase loomed before me, I climbed until I found myself in a maze of dazzling white walls. Where was I? I went from room to room with a sense of urgency, knowing that my time in this place was limited—until a voice downstairs summoned me back.

Was the English conference room my doorway to the past?

There were many things that were different. Still, a feeling of sameness and safety tugged at my heart. I was a ghost who longed to linger and somehow find the right room, my way to the lost domain.

We entered the chapel, where so many hours had been spent in prayer, and looked towards the tabernacle. Time stood still. Heri, Hodie, Semper: The old, familiar statues seemed to assure me, "All is well. See? We are the same."

And then it was time to go, and I left this place I love—again. ■

SPRING REUNION LUNCHEON

St. Joseph's College CELEBRATES

The Golden Jubilee of the Class of 1957

The Silver Jubilee of the Class of 1982

The Anniversary Classes of 1932,
1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1962, 1967,
1972, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 28, 2007**

**The University Club
1 West 54th Street, NYC**



**Mass 10:30 a.m.
Cocktails 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon 12:30 p.m.
\$75 PER PERSON**

The Class of 1956 are guests of the College.

All alumni invited;
spouses and guests welcome.

Call 718.636.6882
or e-mail alumni@sjcny.edu.

Celebrate St. Pat's Day with SJC



**March behind the St. Joseph's College banner
in the 2007 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade
on Saturday, March 17.**

Join SJC students, staff and faculty at 12:40 p.m. on West 46th St., between 5th and 6th Aves. Come early for a traditional Irish breakfast at 10 a.m. at Connolly's Restaurant, 150 E. 47th St., between Lexington and 3rd Aves. Cost for breakfast is \$20 per person.

To sign up to march and/or attend the breakfast, contact the Brooklyn Alumni Office at 718.636.6882 or alumni@sjcnj.edu.



ALUMNI VOLUNTEER DAY

Help us "beautify" St. Joseph's
High School, Brooklyn!

Saturday, March 3, 2007

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Beautification project to include painting,
organizing classrooms and closets, exterior
clean-up, gardening tasks, etc.

Alumni, student, faculty and staff volunteers needed!
Sponsored by the Office of Campus Ministry
and the Brooklyn Alumni Office.

For information or to sign up, call 718.636.6882.

THE ALUMNI OFFICE PRESENTS

**Humor Therapist
Elaine Lundberg**

"Laugh for the Health of It"



**Tuesday, April 24, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

D'ECCLESII AUDITORIUM, SUFFOLK CAMPUS

Alumni—come early and enjoy a complimentary
wine and cheese reception at 6:15 p.m.

Elaine M. Lundberg, M.A., a colleague of the legendary Dr. Patch Adams,
takes a humorous yet practical approach to wellness and stress man-
agement. Learn how to take your work seriously but yourself lightly!

Open to alumni, students, faculty, staff and their guests.

Tickets \$10

To RSVP, contact the Suffolk Alumni Office at
631.447.3215 or alumni@sjcnj.edu.

Alums and Current Students
of the Graduate Management Studies Program:

**Please join us for the
Sixth Annual Networking Dinner at**



100 South Main Street • Sayville, NY

March 7, 2007

Watch for your invitation in the mail!

Alumni

Elizabeth J. Campbell '30
Zita Hawkins Stoddart '30
Rose Marie O'Reilly '36
Audrey Trimble Tastrom '36
Mary Twigg Connors '37
Patricia George Faust '39
Jeanne Tokarz '39

Dorothea M. McCrystal '41
Jane Cohen Giles '44
Lillian Disken '48
Nicoletta "Kelly" Garofalo '50
Eloise Diflo Mullen '51
Dorothy Ann Freese Breiner '52
Mary Frances Croke '53

Dorothy Senges Campbell '56
Peggyann Heidelberger '56
Kathleen Quin Matedero '57
June Perone McDermott '59
Cecilia Young '79
Terry Ing '00
Vijaya Toolsee '01

Relatives and Friends

William E. McGettigan, husband of
Kathleen Brennan McGettigan '42
John M. Murphy, husband of
Grace Haffey Murphy '42
Michael A. Gagliardo, husband of
Angela Sola Gagliardo '49
Herbert Nunnenkamp, husband of
Josephine Vidiri Nunnenkamp '51
Dorothy Gilmore, mother of
Dorothy Gilmore Meier '60 and
mother-in-law of Marie
Gilmore '60
William Brennan, father of Mary
Brennan Mulvihill '64
Anne O'Donnell, mother of Nancy
O'Donnell Flynn '65
Allison Kelley, daughter-in-law of
Louise Kelley '65

Regina McCourt, mother of Regina
Mccourt '64 and Joan McCourt
Lillis '65
Catherine O'Brien, mother of
Catherine O'Brien Scroope '65
Henry J. Scroope III, husband
of Catherine O'Brien
Scroope '65
Daniel G. Caldi, husband of Louise
Belvedere Caldi '67
Thomas P. A. O'Connell, father of
Priscilla O'Connell '67
Constance Wanniski, mother of
Ruth K. Necco '68
Jude Wanniski, brother of Ruth K.
Necco '68
Matthew Giangreco, brother of
Christine Giangreco '69

George Vassar, father of Maria
Vassar Recchione '69
Carmela Vista, mother of Angela
Vista Savino '69
Gary Brockmeyer, husband of
MaryEllen Brockmeyer '70
George J. Touwsma, father of
Nancy Touwsma Sigmund '72
Maria Tucci, grandmother of
Maria Biagini '91
Cladel Regnier, father of E. Patrick
Regnier '91
Angelina Errera, mother of Linda
Pasquale '04 and grandmother
of Jill Pasquale '97
Helen Gaglia, mother of Linda
Gaglia '03

EVENTS CALENDAR

WINTER / SPRING 2007

JANUARY / FEBRUARY

JANUARY

18-Feb. 15

Another View: Beyond Tourism—Photographs by S. Patricia A. Manning

Receptions: Jan. 30, 5:30 p.m.; Feb. 3, noon
Alumni Room Gallery, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts

29-Feb. 28

Milton Rogovin Exhibit

Photographs of Los Olvidares (The Forgotten Ones)
Board Room Gallery, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Council for the Arts

FEBRUARY

19

Career Networking Night—Young Alumni

Human Relations and Social Science Majors
6:30 p.m., Shea Conference Room, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Alumni Office

19-March 15

Brooklynature: On The Gallery Walls Exhibit

Receptions: Feb. 20, 5:30 p.m.; March 10, noon
Alumni Room Gallery, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts

23

Betsyann Faiella Concert

7 p.m., D'Ecclesiis Auditorium, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Council for the Arts

23-March 11

The Cocktail Hour by A.R. Gurney

Feb. 23, 24, March 2, 3, 9, 10–8 p.m.; Feb. 25, March 4, 11–3 p.m.
Clare Rose Playhouse, Suffolk Campus





F E B R U A R Y / M A R C H

26-March 1 **Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows John and Lillian Maguire**
Feb. 26, 27 and March 1 in Suffolk; Feb. 28 in Brooklyn

27 **Alumni Night with the NY Islanders**
NY Islanders vs. Philadelphia Flyers—7:30 p.m., Nassau Coliseum
Sponsored by the Brooklyn and Suffolk Alumni Offices

M A R C H

3 **Alumni Volunteer Day**
See ad, page 40, for details

7 **Materializing the Ephemeral: A Lecture-Performance on the Art of Loie Fuller**
12:40 p.m., Auditorium—Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts

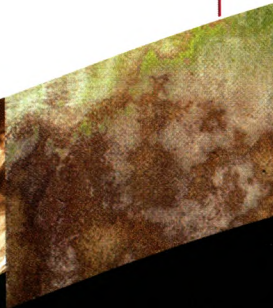
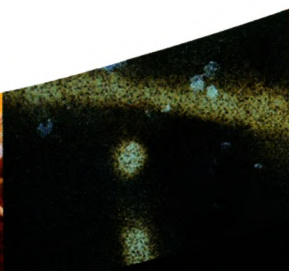
7 **Graduate Management Studies Annual Networking Dinner**
See ad, page 40, for details

7-April 3 **SJC Faculty Art Exhibit**
Board Room Gallery, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Council for the Arts

15 **Before Hours Alumni Networking Breakfast**
7 a.m., California Diner, Patchogue
Sponsored by the Suffolk Alumni Office

17 **St. Patrick's Day—Breakfast at Connolly's**
See ad, page 40, for details

26-April 26 **Transformations: Works by Kristin Holcomb**
Receptions: March 29, 5:30 p.m.; April 14, 12:30 p.m.
Alumni Room, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts



EVENTS INFORMATION

Council for the Arts B - 718.399.6755 / S - 631.447.3200
Alumni Office B - 718.636.6882 / S - 631.447.3215
Clare Rose Playhouse 631.654.0199

For a complete listing of events,
visit the College Web site at
www.sjcny.edu.

MARCH / APRIL

29

Personal Finance Seminar

6:30 p.m., Shea Conference Room, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Alumni Office

APRIL

12

SJC Dance Club Presents: "Movement Impressions"

12:40 p.m. and 7 p.m. (alumni reception at 6 p.m.)
Auditorium, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts and the Brooklyn Alumni Office

19

Mayhem Poets

12:40 p.m., Auditorium, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the CAB and the Brooklyn Council for the Arts

22

Canta Libre Concert

3 p.m., D'Ecclesiis Auditorium, Suffolk Campus
Sponsored by the Suffolk Council for the Arts

23

Danzi Athletic Center 10th Anniversary Celebration Week

Call 631.447.3355 for event schedule

24

Humor Therapist Elaine Lundberg

See ad, page 40, for details

26-28

Chapel Players and SJC Drama Club Spring Production

April 26, 7:00 p.m.; April 27-28, 8:00 p.m.; Alumni reception, April 27, 7:00 p.m.
Auditorium, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts and the Brooklyn Alumni Office

27-May 12

The Waverly Gallery by Kenneth Lonergan

April 27, 28, May 4, 5, 11, 12-8 p.m.; April 29, May 6-3 p.m.
Clare Rose Playhouse, Suffolk Campus





EASING THE TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

by Andrea J. Pekar (SJC Class of 1993)



Whatever happened to letting kids be kids and teachers simply teach? The constant change I have witnessed over my 16 years in the field of education has been astonishing, to say the least. The demands to meet the needs of the individual learner continue to grow as society becomes increasingly complex. Before even considering the fallout from No Child Left Behind, our family structure has changed and with it comes a shift in the learner we are educating. In accepting the mission to educate all learners, the need for transitional learning programs has become ever more popular and necessary.

As a middle school principal, not only do I need to create a smooth transition from the world of elementary education to secondary, I am also charged with creating that seamless move from a middle level setting to a high school setting, knowing all along that not all stu-

dents are ready for that change despite its age-appropriateness. They are leaving a team-centered, emotionally supportive middle school setting for the "now you're independent" high school experience. For some, a program that allows those not-so-ready-learners to be successful and not fall into the abyss of high school social and educational demands is required.

Proudly, in the Riverhead Central School District, we have done just that. With the implementation of an almost middle school-type philosophy, a Transitional Learning Community (TLC) has been created at Riverhead High School to help those students who need that bridge from middle to high school to become independent learners. A collegial effort between middle school and high school administration and support staff identified 60 students who would benefit from this program. The first step was to educate the students and their families about this program's existence and purpose. Secondly, we wanted the students to "buy in" and agree to participate. After a program overview, many of the students personally recognized their need to be part of this TLC and eagerly joined in.

An important aspect of this program is getting the right classroom educators involved. Teachers who accept the challenge of working with this type of dynamic learner are aware of their needs, and, most importantly, are willing to create an atmosphere that pro-

motes the individual learner. The key here is social and emotional safety. Not only are the classes small—12 students per class—but they also have a daily advisory period that reserves time to seek out individual students and check on their needs and progress.

These TLC students are no longer just "dropped" into this state of high school independence. For those who accept the challenge, they are given the social, emotional and academic tools that allow for success. The students take ownership of their success or failure now knowing that they have been given the opportunity to succeed with the help of the educators around them. There is now a sense of calmness that envelopes these students, rather than the anxieties they used to feel upon entering high school.

As educators, we accept the fact that we will do whatever is necessary to educate our students, no matter the mandates that are thrown our way. We are professionals who immerse ourselves in the lives of our learners in order to meet their needs, without regard to the difficulty or level of frustration.

Andrea J. Pekar is the principal of Riverhead Middle School and formerly an assistant principal at Riverhead High School. Riverhead Central School District, on Long Island's East End, is a diverse community with a K-12 enrollment of approximately 4,800 students, including 785 in the middle school's grades seven and eight. ■

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